**Ministry of Mines**
**National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust**
**Minutes of the 106th Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1) Meeting held on 5th, 6th and 7th October 2026 through video conferencing**

The 106th Meeting of the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-I (TCC-1) of the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) was held via video conferencing under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General (DDG), Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI) and Chairman, TCC-1, NMEDT, on 5th, 6th and 7th October 2026. Members of TCC-1, NMEDT and representatives from MECL, DGM Chhattisgarh, M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd. , M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd, M/s Geo Exploration and Mining Solution, M/s Novomine India Private Limited, BMRC Geomining Solutions, NRD TATA, Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., M/s Geo Consultants Private Limited, M/s. Sathi Planners Private Limited, Critical Mineral Trackers, Bhushilp Mines & Minerals Pvt. Ltd., Envirogreen Consultants India Pvt. Ltd., S&S Geological consultant, M/s Wattfin Ventures Private Limited, M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited, M/s Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited, Unised Research Consultants Pvt. Ltd. have attended the meeting through their respective VC modes.

The list of participants is enclosed in Annexure- 4.

Shri S. Dhanendran, Director, GSI and Member Secretary, TCC-1, NMEDT, welcomed Dr. S. Ravi, Dy. Director General, GSI and Chairman, TCC-1, NMEDT, Members of the TCC-1 and participants representing various Notified Exploration Agencies (NEAs) and Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs).

Dr. S. Ravi, Chairman of TCC-1, NMEDT, extended a warm welcome to all members of TCC-1 and participants representing various NEAs and NPEAs and conducted the proceedings as per circulated agenda.

## Agenda 106.1: Technical evaluation of new project proposals

### Agenda 106.1.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE-Graphite & associated Mineralization in Komatipalli area, District- Parvathipuram-Manyam & Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh.

**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/AP/MECL/26-27/025)**

**[Implementing Agency: MECL]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 65N/06 and comprises Khondalite, Migmatite and Charnockite Suites, along with quartzite, garnetiferous quartzite and pegmatite/quartzo-feldspathic veins of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB).
b. NGCM studies reported MnO values of 0.04–0.4% and LREE concentrations of 191–1,349 ppm, with a threshold of 720 ppm. Eight samples exceeding 750 ppm LREE were concentrated near the Komatipalli area.
c. GSI carried out specialised thematic mapping at 1:25,000 scale during FS 2024–25 in parts of the Bobbili–Komatipalli area, Parvathipuram-Manyam and Vizianagaram districts, Andhra Pradesh, to assess manganese and REE potential.
d. A total of 24 samples recorded $K_2O$ values exceeding 3%. Vanadium concentrations reached 682 ppm in laterite, with 22 samples recording values above 200 ppm.

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e. A maximum total rare earth element (TREE) concentration of 12,608 ppm was reported in a bedrock sample collected from a pegmatite vein near Balagudaba village.
f. In view of the geochemical results and the identified mineral potential, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage exploration to evaluate REE, graphite and associated mineralisation.
g. The proposed exploration programme includes geological mapping at 1:12,500 scale, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical surveys and exploratory drilling to assess the mineral resource potential under the UNFC 334 category.
h. The Committee observed that the proposal was primarily based on GSI's G-4 stage investigation data, which indicated low values of REE, vanadium and other critical minerals. The agency had not undertaken a field visit or generated any additional exploration data.
i. The Committee considered that the available dataset was insufficient to justify undertaking G-4 stage exploration in the proposed block.
j. The agency was advised to conduct a field visit, collect representative samples and establish evidence of mineralisation. If the analytical results are encouraging, the agency may submit a revised proposal incorporating the additional data.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed NPEA block falls within the STM project area investigated by GSI during FS 2024-25 and within the RMT block taken up during FS 2024-26. GSI already collected 24 samples (lithology controlled) from the NPEA proposed block. Though only four samples are found to be anomalous in TREE (>1000 ppm). |
| 2. | MECL | NA |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | No Mining Lease within the proposed block. No Composite License has been granted in the said area. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the available analytical data indicated low concentrations of REE, vanadium and other critical minerals, which were insufficient to justify G-4 stage exploration in the proposed area.***

***The agency was advised to undertake a field visit, collect representative samples and establish evidence of mineralisation. If the analytical results are encouraging, the agency may submit a revised proposal incorporating the additional field data.***

**Agenda 106.1.2. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE & RM in Bura Block, District-Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/UP/MECL/26-27/024)**
**[Implementing Agency: MECL]**

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a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 63L/16 and 64-I/13 and comprises granite gneiss with dolerite intrusions, along with sandstone and shale of the Vindhyan Supergroup.
b. Geochemical analysis of 25 stream sediment samples collected from the proposed block under NGCM programme (2011-12) revealed TREE+Y concentrations up to 1,401.48 ppm, with seven samples recording values exceeding 950 ppm. Zirconium concentrations exceeded 1,000 ppm in 15 samples, reaching a maximum of 3,025 ppm.
c. GSI had earlier carried out G-3 stage exploration for REE mineralisation in the Nawatola–Laband area, Sonbhadra district, during FS 2016–18, wherein 13 samples from magnetite-bearing, coarse-grained K-feldspar veins in granite recorded REE concentrations exceeding 900 ppm.
d. In view of the encouraging geochemical anomalies and previous exploration results, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration to evaluate REE and rare metal (RM) potential through detailed geological mapping at 1:12500 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling to assess the mineral resource potential under the UNFC G-4 category.
e. The Committee observed that AMD had undertaken G-4 stage investigations in and around the proposed block in different phases, with grab samples reporting uranium ($U_3O_8$) values of up to 1.30%. AMD further informed that, considering the known uranium potential and the requirement for further follow-up exploration, the proposed block was not recommended for the proposed work.
f. Accordingly, the Committee did not consider the proposal for recommendation.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The Majharitola–Jaraha proposal (GSI_G4_FS 2026–27) has been kept on hold which is completely overlapping with proposed block and same commodity. The approved Sendur–Bachra–Mahuadohar project (GSI_G4_FS 2027–28) overlaps the northern boundary of the proposed block. |
| 2. | MECL | NA |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has carried out G4 stage of exploration for uranium in and around the proposed block in different phases. In view of the known potential for uranium in and around the proposed block and planned future follow up exploration by AMD, the proposed block is **not recommended**. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as AMD has reported uranium potential in and around the proposed area and has proposed to undertake further follow-up exploration work.***

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**Agenda 106.1.3. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite and Vanadium in Bamanswal Area, Almora District, Uttarakhand.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IND/G4/UK/P/26-27/022)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 53O/14 and comprises metamorphosed pelitic and psammo-pelitic rocks of the Almora Crystalline Group, including graphite schist, mica schist, quartzite, phyllite, slate, kyanite-sillimanite schist and associated intrusive rocks.
b. GSI carried out G-4 stage investigation for tin and tungsten in parts of Toposheet No. 53O/10, adjacent to the proposed block, during FS 2020–21.
c. The investigation reported anomalous vanadium concentrations of 761–3,664 ppm in bedrock samples collected from graphite schist, while channel samples recorded values ranging from 95 to 3,637 ppm.
d. GSI also conducted a reconnaissance survey for vanadium and associated metals in black shales in and around the Nishi–Malta area, Almora district, Uttarakhand, during FS 2022–23.
e. Considering the geological setting and previously reported vanadium anomalies in the adjoining areas, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration to evaluate the potential for graphite and vanadium mineralisation.
f. The proposed exploration programme includes detailed geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resource potential under the UNFC G-4 category.
g. The proposal was earlier discussed in the 99th TCC-I meeting, wherein the Committee observed that the northern part of the proposed block fell within a wildlife sanctuary and a major portion of the area was under forest cover.
h. The Committee advised the agency to revise the block by excluding the wildlife sanctuary area in the north and reorienting it parallel to the trend of the host rock. In-principle approval was accorded subject to these modifications.
i. The Committee observed that the agency had undertaken G-4 stage exploration in adjacent areas and reported graphite schist bands in surface and subsurface exposures. Two samples collected from the proposed area recorded fixed carbon (FC) values of 3.32% and 6.08%, while vanadium analysis had not been carried out.
j. The Committee noted that the proposed area appeared to have greater potential for vanadium than graphite and advised the agency to analyse the two samples for vanadium and incorporate the results to further substantiate the proposal.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The area has been assessed to be prospective for vanadium mineralization based on the analytical results and recommendations of the investigators. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |

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| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 15%) and also a small portion of the proposed block falls in ESZ (<1%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee deferred the proposal and advised the agency to strengthen it by incorporating vanadium analytical data for the samples collected from the proposed area.***

**Agenda 106.1.4. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) of Graphite in Bhaleri block, Rayagada district, Odisha**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/OD/26-27/255)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 65M/11 and forms part of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB), comprising Charnockite, Khondalite, quartzite, calc-silicate gneiss, quartzo-feldspathic graphite gneiss, granite gneiss and leptynite.
b. M/s MMPL carried out reconnaissance (G-4 stage) exploration for graphite in the Dumburuneli area, Rayagada district, Odisha, and interpreted 11 graphite bands in Zone-1 based on surface and subsurface evidence from three scout boreholes.
c. The graphite bands in Zone-1 recorded fixed carbon (FC) values ranging from 2.20% to 10.03%. A reconnaissance resource of 0.199 million tonnes was estimated for Zone-1 at an average weighted FC content of 6.00%.
d. In the central part (Zone-3), six graphite bands were interpreted, with fixed carbon (FC) values ranging from 2.48% to 8.19%. A reconnaissance resource of 0.062 million tonnes was estimated at an average weighted FC content of 4.33%.
e. In the eastern part (Zone-4), eight graphite bands were interpreted, with FC values ranging from 2.15% to 17.64%. A reconnaissance resource of 0.144 million tonnes was estimated at an average weighted FC content of 7.08%.
f. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed preliminary exploration (G-3 stage) to evaluate graphite mineralisation through detailed geological mapping at 1:2,000 scale, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
g. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that it involved upgradation of the agency's earlier G-4 stage exploration work for graphite mineralisation. The Committee advised the agency to undertake G-3 stage exploration in two phases to systematically establish the continuity and extent of the identified graphite bands.
h. In Phase-I, the agency was advised to undertake detailed geological mapping, surface sampling and extensive trenching to establish the lateral and depth-wise extension of the graphite bands. Based on the results of Phase-I, Phase-II shall involve SP (Self-Potential) survey and systematic exploratory drilling to further delineate the mineralisation and assess the graphite resources.
i. About 3.16% of the block has Recorded Forest Area (RFA)

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| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | A number of exploration work for Graphite have been carried out by GSI in and around the proposed block. The proposed block may be considered for graphite exploration in G3 level. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | The Proposed G3 Block has been carved out from the previously proposed Dumburuneli G4 Block of MMPL. |
| 5. | NMEDT | This project is an up gradataion of the project "Reconnaissance Survey for Graphite in Dumburuneli Area, Rayagada, Odisha". Futher two NMEDT funded blocks of MMPL are present in the buffer zone of the proposed block, as per the NGDR Portal. The proposed area falls in the Recorded Forest Area (RFA). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee recommended the proposal titled "Preliminary exploration (G3 Stage) of Graphite in Bhaleri Block, District: Rayagada, Odisha" for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 182.10 lakhs (including GST) with a timeline of 12 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 1A & 1B. The project will be reviewed after 3, 6 and 9 months.***

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**Annexure 1A**

**Preliminary exploration (G3 Stage) of Graphite in Bhaleri Block, District: Rayagada, Odisha**
**Total area – 4.11 Sq.km; Borehole - 10 [8 1st Level BH (30 m vertical intersection) + 2 2nd Level BH (60 m vertical intersection)]; Meterage - 700 m, Period of completion - 12 months,**
**Phase I: Mapping, Trenching & GP work), Phase II: Drilling Review - After 3 months (after mapping, trenching and SP survey) and 6 months (completion of 1st level drilling along with analysis) and 9 months (after completion of 2nd level drilling along with analysis)**
**ME/DD/G3/OD/26-27/255**
**Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Private Limited**

| S.No. | Main Activity | Activity | Sub Activity | Sub Sub Activity | Unit | Cost (₹) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.1 Large scale (LSM) Geological Mapping/ Traverse mapping / Detailed Mapping in Peninsular India : Large scale Geological mapping on 1:12,500, 1:10,000 1:10,000 (for coal); 1:5000, 1:4000, 1:2000, 1:1,000, 1:500 ; 1:200 scale; scale including surface outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral); water sampling; pit and trench logging, pit and trench sampling; consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. *Rec. traverse Mapping (1:25000/1:50000 for KCR (Kimberlite clan of rocks}/Diamond exploration) | | | 4.11 | 75213.00 | DM and Contouring on 2000 scale |
| 2 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1a Other Geological work/studies like geochemical studies, geochemical | b) Charges for one Geologist per day in field (without labour) | 120 | 1740000.00 | |

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| | (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | | Orientation Survey, water sampling, surface sampling, outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral), sample preparation pit & trench logging and sampling, core logging and core sampling, preparation of beneficiation samples, skeletonisation of cores etc. including planning for sampling, Boreholes etc., consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. Application of softwares for synthesis or interpretation of data at headquarter, Any other activity in field or headquarter. | | | | |
| 3 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1a Other Geological work/studies like geochemical studies, geochemical Orientation Survey, water sampling, surface sampling, outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral), sample preparation pit & trench logging and sampling, core logging and core sampling, preparation of beneficiation samples, skeletonisation of cores etc. including planning for sampling, | a) Charges for one Geologist per day at HQ | 40 | 420000.00 | |

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| | | | Boreholes etc., consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. Application of softwares for synthesis or interpretation of data at headquarter, Any other activity in field or headquarter. | | | | |
| 4 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.3 Survey Work | 1.3.1 Charges of one qualified surveyor with Total Station for carrying out topographical survey in different RF and surface contouring at different interval, fixation of borehole and determination of co- ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes with total station etc. | a) Charges of one Surveyor per day (without labour) (Up to 4 labours will be allowed per surveyor) | 25 | 262500.00 | |
| 5 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.3 Survey Work | 1.3.2 Demarcation of lease boundary, Fixation of borehole and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes by DGPS (including charges for labours deployed for the work) - use of CORS Network system for all DGPS is compulsory | | 16 | 384000.00 | 10 BH + 6 Cardinal points |
| 6 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1b Sample processing work including marking of samples, core splitting, crushing and powdering of samples, coning and quartering, packing & labeling of samples, preparation of beneficiation samples etc. | | 38 | 298300.00 | |

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| 7 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.1 Pitting & Trenching | 2.1.1 Excavation of Trenches upto 2.0 m depth with Filling | | 150 | 618750.00 | |
| 8 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.1 Drilling: (Diamond core drilling) | 2.2.1.1d Drilling in / Drilling in Hard rock/ Strata: HQ size borehole upto 400m Depth and NQ Size beyond 400m depth In case NQ size drilling is done before 400m depth, the rate shall decrease by 20% | 700 | 7000000.00 | 10 BH (1st Level: 8 + 2nd Level: 2 |
| 9 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.7 Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30") | | 10 | 20000.00 | |
| 10 | 3.0 Geophysical Survey | 3.3 Self-Potential Method | 3.3a Self-Potential (8-20 line km) | | 5 | 310700.00 | |
| 11 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.18 Proximate analysis of Graphite | | 300 | 1084200.00 | 100 Trench Sample + 200 Core samples |
| 12 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.18 Proximate analysis of Graphite | | 30 | 108420.00 | |
| 13 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.3 Petrological Studies | 4.3.2 Preparation of polished thin section of rock/ wafer | | 10 | 8000.00 | |
| 14 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.3 Petrological Studies | 4.3.4 Complete petrographic /ore microscopic study/mineragraphic report of rock sample ( along with 5 nos. digital photo microgrphs) | | 10 | 28000.00 | |
| 15 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.8 Geotechnical Laboratory | 4.8.3 Bulk density - Dry / Saturated | | 6 | 15000.00 | |
| 16 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.5 Mineral Physics Studies | 4.5.1 RAMAN spectroscopy study per hour | | 10 | 27000.00 | |
| 17 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with | | | 240 | 135600 | |

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| | | the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | | | |
| 18 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 100 | 56500 | |
| 19 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.6 Land/Crop compensation | | | 10 | 300000.00 | As per actuals with 30000 being the maximum ceiling |
| 20 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 152 | 85880 | |
| 21 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.3 Drill Core Preservation | | | | 477000.00 | 1 complete BH + Mineralised zone |
| | | | **Total Charges/Cost (₹)** | | | **13455063.00** | |
| | | | **Total Drilling Cost (Rule 2.2.9) (Rule 2 Applied)** | | | **1400000.00** | |
| | | | **Tendering Process Cost** | | | **0.00** | |
| | | | **Technical supervision cost** | | | **0.00** | |
| | | | **Total** | | | **14855063.00** | |
| | | | **Peer review charge(Fixed)** | | | **30000.00** | |
| | | | **Preparation of Exploration Proposal** | | | **297101.00** | |
| | | | **Geological Report Preparation** | | | **250000.00** | |
| | | | **Total Estimated Cost without GST (₹)** | | | **15432164.00** | |
| | | | **Provision for GST (18% of I) (₹)** | | | **2777790.00** | |
| | | | **Total Estimated Cost with GST (₹)** | | | **18209954.00** | |
| Note: | | | | | | | |
| **1** | **Strict adherence to the Ministry of Finance's and GFR guidelines is mandatory. Every transaction must adhere to GFR rule 21** | | | | | | |

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| **2** | **In case of delay/non- performance, the appropriate action will be taken by competent authority against delinquent agency as per prevailing govt. of India rules/guidelines on procurement** |
| **3** | **If any part of the project is outsourced, the amount will be reimbursed as per the Paragraph 3 of NMET SoC and Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA/NPEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.** |
| **4** | **Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.** |
| **5** | **Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.** |
| **6** | **All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency** |

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**Annexure 1B**

**Time Schedule/Action Plan for Preliminary exploration (G3 Stage) of Graphite in Bhaleri Block, District: Rayagada, Odisha**

| Item of work | Months | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | REVIEW | 4 | 5 | 6 | REVIEW | 7 | 8 | 9 | REVIEW | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Camp Setup | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Detailed Geological Mapping (1:2,000) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Topographic survey (2m contour interval) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Trench Sampling | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chemical analysis of surface samples | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Geophysical SP survey | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Interpretation of SP data | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drilling of 1st phase borehole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sampling of drill cores of 1st phase borehole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Analysis of drill core samples of 1st phase borehole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Drilling of 2nd phase borehole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sampling of drill cores of 2nd phase borehole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Analysis of drill core samples of 2nd phase borehole | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Preparation of draft geological report | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Review by external peer reviewer | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Final geological report preparation | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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**Agenda 106.1.5. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) For Limestone in Punjai Edayar Kelmugam (6 Sq. Km), Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu. (Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/TN/26-27/241)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s Geo Exploration and Mining Solution]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 58-I/04 and comprises biotite gneiss, pink gneiss and calc-silicate rocks, with thin limestone bands. The northern part is dominated by charnockite, associated pyroxene granulite, magnetite quartzite, while the southern part comprises biotite-hornblende gneiss.
b. GSI carried out a regional reassessment of limestone resources in the Velur–Paramati area, Salem district, Tamil Nadu, during FS 1982–83. Of the 194 samples collected, 75 were analysed, recording CaO values of 44.7–51.8% and MgO values of 0.25–5.04%. The probable in-situ reserves were estimated at 4.64 million tonnes.
c. GSI undertook G-4 stage exploration for iron ore in the Tattayyangarpettai, Valasiramani and Mahadevi areas of Tiruchirapalli and Namakkal districts, Tamil Nadu, during FS 2005–06.
d. GSI also conducted a G-4 stage reconnaissance survey for REE and associated minerals in parts of the Paramathi–Sarkarvalarandi–Kaundanur area of Namakkal and Tiruchirapalli districts during FS 2013–15.
e. The agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for limestone through geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
f. The proposal was previously discussed in the 94th and 101st TCC-I meetings. During the 94th meeting, it was deferred as the proposed area of 54.13 sq. km was considered too large for G-3 stage exploration. The agency was advised to reduce the area based on geological potential, undertake a field visit, collect samples and check for overlapping areas. In the 101st meeting, the modified proposal covering 6.20 sq. km was not considered due to non-uploading of the KML file.
g. The agency informed the Committee that six representative rock samples had been collected during fieldwork; however, analytical results were presented for only two samples collected from locations widely separated within the proposed block.
h. The Committee advised the agency to collect additional representative samples from different limestone bands along the entire strike length to establish their width and grade. The agency was also advised to plot all available geological and exploration data on the geological map of the proposed area to substantiate the proposal.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The G-3 proposal as submitted may help in assessing the grade of the limestone and estimating the limestone resources under G-3 category. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Updated State DGM comments not received. |

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|---|---|---|
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however one India Major lease block (Limestone- Selvi Mines) is lies within the proposed area. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee deferred the proposal due to insufficient supporting data and inadequate justification.***

***The agency was advised to undertake a field visit, collect additional representative samples from different limestone bands along the entire strike length to establish their width and grade, and strengthen the proposal with adequate geological and analytical data.***

**Agenda 106.1.6. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Basemetal in Tukra - Phoponga Area, Goalpara District, Assam**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/AS/26-27/225)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s Novomine India Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 78J/12 and comprises mica schist, amphibolite/metabasics, biotite gneiss, sillimanite-cordierite-biotite gneiss, migmatite, granite gneiss and pegmatites of the Meghalaya Gneissic Complex.
b. GSI carried out preliminary investigations for REE in the southern part of Agia, around Sijukona Hill and Tukureswari Hill, Goalpara district, Assam, during FS 2012–14. The results generally indicated low to moderate REE concentrations (less than 1,000 ppm), with relatively higher values in amphibolite/metabasics, migmatite and pink granite gneiss.
c. Previous investigations in the Phoponga area identified significant Pb-Zn enrichment in channel samples, with Zn values ranging from 26 to 7,618 ppm (mean 1,088 ppm) and Pb values from 8 to 6,617 ppm (mean 247 ppm).
d. During FS 2015–16, investigations by Singha et al. in the Phoponga Hills area reported Zn values up to 13.17% and Pb values up to 9.17% in channel samples, delineating mineralised zones with widths of 3.5 m and 6.5 m, respectively.
e. Geophysical surveys covering 1.9 sq. km, using SP, IP, resistivity and vertical-field magnetic methods, identified several anomalies. Test drilling of four scout boreholes confirmed base-metal mineralisation, with borehole GPB-1 recording Pb up to 3,170 ppm and Zn up to 5,116 ppm.
f. During fieldwork in the proposed block, the agency collected five soil samples and two bedrock samples. One bedrock sample recorded Cu of 1,040 ppm and Cr of 308 ppm.
g. Based on the available geological, geochemical and geophysical data, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration for base-metal mineralisation through geological mapping at 1:12,500 scale, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resource potential under the UNFC G-4 category.
h. The Committee observed that the proposed area is predominantly covered by laterite, with limited rock exposures, and that the samples collected by the agency indicated very low concentrations of base metals.

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i. In view of the limited outcrop availability and poor analytical results, the Committee did not consider the proposal for recommendation.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Based on the assay values of the analytical samples carried out by GSI and NIPL, the proposed area cannot be marked as feasible for taking up the any kind of exploration projects on base metals. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | In the Phophonga area, AMD has undertaken preliminary survey activities for atomic minerals and REEs. Therefore, it is requested to kindly examine the KML file of the proposed area to ascertain any overlap with the area already covered/identified by AMD, so as to avoid duplication of exploration work and potential boundary-related issues. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 25%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the available geological and geochemical database does not indicate sufficient potential for base-metal mineralisation in the proposed area.***

**Agenda 106.1.7. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Vanadium, Aluminous Laterite & Associated Minerals in Umariya Block, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/MP/26-27/252)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64A/09 and comprises laterite, ferruginous sandstone and clay beds of the Jabalpur Formation of the Gondwana Supergroup, with recent alluvial cover.
b. GSI carried out a reconnaissance survey for vanadium, titanium and REE mineralisation in the Gopalpur–Banhari–Hathra area, Katni district, Madhya Pradesh, during FS 2024–25. Vanadium concentrations exceeding 500 ppm and reaching 1,900 ppm were reported in approximately 60% of the bedrock samples, while 41 out of 50 PTS samples recorded values above 800 ppm, with a maximum of 1,553 ppm.
c. The investigation delineated five mineralised zones, for which detailed exploration, including adjacent unexplored lateritic horizons, was recommended to assess their economic potential.

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d. Samples collected from the proposed block during G-4 stage investigation recorded vanadium concentrations of 980.26–1,176 ppm and $Al_2O_3$ values of 9.65–14.09% in bedrock samples. PTS samples recorded vanadium values of 1,241.05–1,465.36 ppm and $Al_2O_3$ values of 11.51–14.09%.
e. The agency further reported collection of five bedrock samples, which recorded vanadium concentrations ranging from 600 to 1,100 ppm.
f. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for vanadium, aluminous laterite and associated minerals through detailed geological mapping at 1:2000 scale, pitting/trenching, ground geophysical surveys and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
g. The Committee observed that vanadium mineralisation was reported mainly in duricrust, while the analytical results of the samples indicated low vanadium concentrations.
h. Considering the low vanadium values and the possibility that the mineralisation is surficial in nature, the Committee concluded that the available data did not justify G-3 stage exploration in the proposed area. Accordingly, the proposal was not considered for recommendation.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Gopalpur-Banhari-Hathra block (GSI_G4_FS_2024-2025) shows a good V value, and the proposed block lies within this area. Therefore, this area may be considered for further exploration. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 80%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the vanadium mineralisation in the proposed area is of low grade and does not warrant further exploration at the G-3 stage.***

**Agenda 106.1.8. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Vanadium, Aluminous Laterite & Associated Minerals in Khirwa Block, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/MP/26-27/254)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64A/09 and comprises laterite, ferruginous sandstone and clay beds of the Jabalpur Formation of the Gondwana Supergroup, along with recent alluvial deposits.

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b. GSI carried out a reconnaissance survey for vanadium, titanium and REE mineralisation in the Gopalpur–Banhari–Hathra area, Katni district, Madhya Pradesh, during FS 2024–25. Vanadium concentrations exceeding 500 ppm and reaching 1,900 ppm were reported in approximately 60% of the bedrock samples, while 41 out of 50 PTS samples recorded values above 800 ppm, with a maximum of 1,553 ppm.
c. The investigation delineated five mineralised zones, and further detailed exploration of these zones and adjacent unexplored lateritic horizons was recommended to assess their economic potential.
d. During G-4 stage investigation in the proposed block, bedrock samples recorded vanadium concentrations of 219.21–1,024.51 ppm and $Al_2O_3$ values of 4.76–25.45%. PTS samples recorded vanadium values of 1,056.38–1,093.43 ppm and $Al_2O_3$ values of 8.69–9.25%.
e. The agency collected four bedrock samples from the proposed block, which recorded vanadium concentrations ranging from 700 to 1,400 ppm.
f. Based on the available data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for vanadium, aluminous laterite and associated minerals through detailed geological mapping at 1:2,000 scale, pitting/trenching, ground geophysical surveys and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
g. The Committee observed that vanadium mineralisation in the proposed area is associated with duricrust, while the analytical results indicate low vanadium concentrations.
h. Considering the low analytical values and the possibility that the mineralisation is surficial in nature, the Committee concluded that the available data does not justify undertaking G-3 stage exploration in the proposed area. Accordingly, the proposal was not recommended.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Gopalpur-Banhari-Hathra block (GSI_G4_FS_2024-2025) shows a good V value, and the proposed block lies within this area. Therefore, this area may be considered for further exploration. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 67%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the vanadium mineralisation in the proposed area is of low grade and does not warrant further exploration.***

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**Agenda 106.1.9. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Vanadium, Aluminous Laterite & Associated Minerals in Hadkhohari Block, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/MP/26-27/253)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64A/09 and comprises laterite, ferruginous sandstone and clay beds of the Jabalpur Formation of the Gondwana Supergroup, along with recent alluvial deposits.
b. GSI conducted a reconnaissance survey for vanadium, titanium and REE mineralisation in the Gopalpur–Banhari–Hathra area, Katni district, Madhya Pradesh, during FS 2024–25. Vanadium concentrations exceeding 500 ppm and reaching 1,900 ppm were reported in approximately 60% of the bedrock samples, while 41 out of 50 PTS samples recorded values above 800 ppm, with a maximum of 1,553 ppm.
c. The investigation delineated five mineralised zones, for which further detailed exploration, including adjacent unexplored lateritic horizons, was recommended to assess their economic potential.
d. During G-4 stage investigation in the proposed block, bedrock samples recorded vanadium concentrations of 538.86–1,350.50 ppm and $Al_2O_3$ values of 5.4–23.61%. PTS samples recorded vanadium values of 865.96–1,241.61 ppm and $Al_2O_3$ values of 11.82–14.73%.
e. The agency collected four bedrock samples from the proposed block, which recorded vanadium concentrations ranging from 500 to 1,000 ppm.
f. Based on the available data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for vanadium, aluminous laterite and associated minerals through detailed geological mapping at 1:2000 scale, pitting/trenching, ground geophysical surveys and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
g. The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the vanadium mineralisation is associated with duricrust and the analytical results indicate low vanadium concentrations. Considering the possibility that the mineralisation is surficial in nature, the available data does not justify undertaking G-3 stage exploration in the proposed area.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Gopalpur-Banhari-Hathra block (GSI_G4_FS_2024-2025) shows a good V value, and the proposed block lies within this area. Therefore, this area may be considered for further exploration. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 63%). |

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**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the vanadium mineralisation in the proposed area is of low grade and does not warrant further exploration.***

**Agenda 106.1.10. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Copper and associated minerals in Bakra-Phuljhari block in East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand. (Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/JH/26-27/303)**

**[Implementing Agency: NRD Tata]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 73J/07 and 73J/11 and comprises quartzite, phyllite, quartz-chlorite-mica schist, chlorite-mica schist, quartz-mica schist, laterite, quartz veins and ultrabasic rocks of the Chaibasa Formation of the North Singhbhum Mobile Belt (NSMB).
b. GSI carried out exploration for base-metal mineralisation in the adjacent Dhobani block, completing 4,445 m of drilling through 22 boreholes. Ten sub-parallel copper lodes were delineated over a strike length of approximately 1.1 km.
c. Subsequently, MECL completed 4,000.25 m of drilling through 20 boreholes in the Dhobani block and established copper resources of 13.071 million tonnes at 0.61% Cu at a 0.2% cut-off grade and 5.22 million tonnes at 1.31% Cu at a 0.5% cut-off grade.
d. NRD-TATA carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration under an NMEDT-sponsored project in the Musabani–Dumriya–Maheshpur area, establishing a strike continuity of mineralisation for nearly 1 km.
e. The G-4 investigation estimated reconnaissance mineral resources of 4.64 million tonnes at 0.501% Cu at a 0.2% cut-off grade and 1.60 million tonnes at 0.882% Cu at a 0.5% cut-off grade, under the UNFC 334 category.
f. Based on the available geological and exploration data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for copper and associated minerals in the proposed block. The present proposal is an upgradation by agency.
g. The proposed work programme includes detailed geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale, pitting/trenching, ground geophysical surveys and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resource potential.
h. The Committee observed that the proposal involved upgradation of the agency's earlier G-4 stage exploration work. The agency was advised to undertake trenching over the identified geophysical anomaly to establish the continuity of mineralisation.
i. The Committee recommended drilling of nine first-level boreholes to establish the strike and dip continuity of the mineralised zones, followed by five second-level boreholes along the profiles of the first-level boreholes to assess depth continuity.
j. The agency was advised to present the progress for review after completing drilling of two second-level boreholes at 400 m intervals.
k. Nearly 26.32% of the recommended block falls under recorded forest.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
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|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The NMET proposed Bakra-Phuljhari Copper block (G3 Stage) proposed by TATA Steel is 50 % area is overlapping with the ongoing STM block and it is a mineral based STM item. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | Awaited |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | NMEDT funded G4 block of TATA being upgraded to G3 stage, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest area (app. 50%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee recommended the proposal titled Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) for Copper and associated minerals in the Bakra-Phuljhari Block, District: East Singhbhum, State: Jharkhand" for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 335.07 lakhs (including GST) with a timeline of 12 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 2A & 2B. The project will be reviewed after 3, 6 and 9 months.***

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**Annexure 2A**

**Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) for Copper and associated minerals in the Bakra-Phuljari Block, District: East Singhbhum, State: Jharkhand**
**Total Area - 3.75 sq. km; No. of Boreholes - 13 (8 1st level BH + 5 2nd Level BH (Review after 2 second level BH)); Drilling meterage 1500m; Completion Time - 12 Months; Reviews: After 3, 6 and 9 months**
**ME/DD/G3/JH/26-27/303**
**Implementing Agency: M/s Natural Resources Division-Tata Steel Limited**

| S.No. | Main Activity | Activity | Sub Activity | Sub Sub Activity | Unit | Cost (₹) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.1 Large scale (LSM) Geological Mapping/ Traverse mapping / Detailed Mapping in Peninsular India : Large scale Geological mapping on 1:12,500, 1:10,000 1:10,000 (for coal); 1:5000, 1:4000, 1:2000, 1:1,000, 1:500 ; 1:200 scale; scale including surface outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral); water sampling; pit and trench logging, pit and trench sampling; consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. *Rec. traverse Mapping (1:25000/1:50000 for KCR (Kimberlite clan of rocks}/Diamond exploration) | | | 3.75 | 68625.00 | DM and Contouring on 2000 scale |
| 2 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1a Other Geological work/studies like geochemical studies, geochemical Orientation Survey, water sampling, surface sampling, outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ | b) Charges for one Geologist | 150 | 2175000.00 | |

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| | (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | | Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral), sample preparation pit & trench logging and sampling, core logging and core sampling, preparation of beneficiation samples, skeletonisation of cores etc. including planning for sampling, Boreholes etc., consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. Application of softwares for synthesis or interpretation of data at headquarter, Any other activity in field or headquarter. | per day in field (without labour) | | | |
| 3 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1a Other Geological work/studies like geochemical studies, geochemical Orientation Survey, water sampling, surface sampling, outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral), sample preparation pit & trench logging and sampling, core logging and core sampling, preparation of beneficiation samples, skeletonisation of cores etc. including planning for sampling, Boreholes etc., consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. Application of softwares for synthesis or interpretation of data at headquarter, Any other activity in field or headquarter. | a) Charges for one Geologist per day at HQ | 40 | 420000.00 | |
| 4 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1b Sample processing work including marking of samples, core splitting, crushing and powdering of samples, coning and quartering, packing & labeling of samples, preparation of beneficiation samples etc. | | 51 | 400350.00 | |
| 5 | 1.0 Geological Mapping | 1.3 Survey Work | 1.3.1 Charges of one qualified surveyor with Total Station for carrying out topographical survey in different RF and | a) Charges | 20 | 210000.00 | |

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| | [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | | surface contouring at different interval, fixation of borehole and determination of co- ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes with total station etc. | of one Surveyor per day (without labour) (Up to 4 labours will be allowed per surveyor) | | | |
| 6 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.3 Survey Work | 1.3.2 Demarcation of lease boundary, Fixation of borehole and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes by DGPS (including charges for labours deployed for the work) - use of CORS Network system for all DGPS is compulsary | | 21 | 504000.00 | |
| 7 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.1 Pitting & Trenching | 2.1.1 Excavation of Trenches upto 2.0 m depth with Filling | | 100 | 412500.00 | |
| 8 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.1 Drilling: (Diamond core drilling) | 2.2.1.1d Drilling in / Drilling in Hard rock/ Strata: HQ size borehole | 1500 | 15000000.00 | |

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| | | | | upto 400m Depth and NQ Size beyond 400m depth In case NQ size drilling is done before 400m depth, the rate shall decrease by 20% | | | |
| 9 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.7 Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30") | | 13 | 26000.00 | |
| 10 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.8 Borehole plugging by cement | | 13 | 130000.00 | |
| 11 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.5 Borehole Deviation Survey by Multi shot survey tool (interval 6 m, azimuth and inclination to be recorded) | | 250 | 82500.00 | |
| 12 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.15 Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element (U,Ta,Ge,Be,Hf,Sn,As,Rb,Th) by ICP-MS (sequential technique) | | 410 | 3034000.00 | BRS/ Channel: 50 Trench: 60 Borehole: 300 |
| 13 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.15 Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element (U,Ta,Ge,Be,Hf,Sn,As,Rb,Th) by ICP-MS (sequential technique) | | 41 | 303400.00 | |

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| 14 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.3 Petrological Studies | 4.3.2 Preparation of polished thin section of rock/ wafer | | 15 | 12000.00 | |
| 15 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.3 Petrological Studies | 4.3.4 Complete petrographic /ore microscopic study/ mineragraphic report of rock sample ( along with 5 nos. digital photo micrographs) | | 15 | 42000.00 | |
| 16 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.4 EPMA/SEM Lab. | 4.4.1 EPMA Studies per hour | 4.4.1 | 10 | 105000.00 | |
| 17 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.8 Geotechnical Laboratory | 4.8.3 Bulk density - Dry / Saturated | | 5 | 12500.00 | |
| 18 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.17 Estimation of major oxides by XRF technique (Whole rock analysis) | 4.1.17b For each additional trace elements | 1640 | 690440.00 | 421 (Rate)* 4 addl elements* sample quantum |
| 19 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.17 Estimation of major oxides by XRF technique (Whole rock analysis) | 4.1.17b For each additional trace elements | 164 | 69044.00 | |
| 20 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 300 | 169500 | |
| 21 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 204 | 115260 | |
| 22 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated | | | 80 | 45200 | |

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| | | with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | | | |
| 23 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.6 Land/Crop compensation | | | 13 | 390000 | As per actuals with 30000 being upper ceiling |
| 24 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.3 Drill Core Preservation | | | 400 | 636000.00 | One full core + skeletonized part of mineralization |
| 25 | 7.0 Drone Base survey | 7b Drone Topographic survey | | | 3.75 | 262500.00 | |
| | | | | | | | |

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| **Total Charges/Cost (₹)** | **25315819.00** | |
| **Total Drilling Cost (Rule 2.2.9)** | **0.00** | |
| **Tendering Process Cost** | **300000.00** | |
| **Technical supervision cost** | **1500000.00** | |
| **Total** | **27115819.00** | |
| **Peer review charge(Fixed)** | **30000.00** | |
| **Preparation of Exploration Proposal** | **500000.00** | |
| **Geological Report Preparation** | **750000.00** | |
| **Total Estimated Cost without GST (₹)** | **28395819.00** | |
| **Provision for GST (18% of I) (₹)** | **5111247.00** | |
| **Total Estimated Cost with GST (₹)** | **33507066.00** | |

| Note: | |
|---|---|
| **1** | **Strict adherence to the Ministry of Finance's and GFR guidelines is mandatory. Every transaction must adhere to GFR rule 21** |
| **2** | **In case of delay/non- performance, the appropriate action will be taken by competent authority against delinquent agency as per prevailing govt. of India rules/guidelines on procurement** |
| **3** | **If any part of the project is outsourced, the amount will be reimbursed as per the Paragraph 3 of NMEDT SoC and Item no. 6 of NMEDT SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA/NPEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.** |
| **4** | **Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.** |

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| **5** | **Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.** |
| **6** | **All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency** |

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**Annexure 2B**

**Time Schedule/ Action Pan for Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) for Copper and associated minerals in the Bakra-Phuljari Block, District: East Singhbhum, State: Jharkhand**

| Sl. No. | Particulars | M 1 | M 2 | M 3 | Review | M 4 | M 5 | M 6 | Review | M 7 | M 8 | M 9 | Review | M10 | M11 | M12 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Drone Topographic survey | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Detailed Geological Mapping (1:2000 scale) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Channel and trench sample analysis | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Exploratory drilling | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Sampling and chemical analysis of drill core samples | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Trenching and Trench sampling | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Petro-mineragraphic studies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | i.) Petro-mineragraphy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ii.) EPMA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Bulk density measurement | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Report Writing with Peer Review | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Final Review and Report Submission in NGDR portal | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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**Agenda 106.1.11. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite, Copper & Base Metal (9 sq.km area), near village Akola & Tana, Tehsil-Kapasan, Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/RJ/26-27/220)**
**[Implementing Agency: Envirogreen Consultants India Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 45L/02 and comprises biotite schist, granite gneiss, migmatite, amphibolite, mica schist (graphitic/calcareous) and calc-silicate/dolomitic marble of the Mangalwar Complex of the Bhilwara Supergroup.
b. During the 1980s, the AMSE Wing, Western Zone, GSI, Jaipur, carried out ground evaluation of airborne magnetic anomalies in the Akola, Wari, Pari, Bhagal and Bhinder areas, identifying several prospects with encouraging mineralisation in the Bhagal, Ladana, Wari–Pari and Bhinder areas.
c. GSI subsequently carried out specialised thematic mapping at 1:25,000 scale in the southern parts of the Pur–Banera and Akola–Bhindar belts of Rajasthan during FS 2010–13.
d. MECL conducted exploration for copper ore in the Bhagal Copper Block (Phases I and II), Chittorgarh district, Rajasthan. Phase I estimated 5.53 million tonnes of ore at 0.76% Cu at a 0.5% cut-off grade, associated with molybdenum and bismuth. The Dariba (Akola) and Bhagal copper prospects, with estimated resources of 2.98 million tonnes at 0.74% Cu and 9.23 million tonnes at 0.732% Cu, respectively, were subsequently upgraded for auction.
e. Geochemical analyses of bedrock samples from the Akola–Bhindar area recorded copper values of 0.18%, Fe of 4.5% and gold of 0.11 ppm. Samples from Toposheet No. 45L/5 recorded copper values ranging from 0.13% to 2.1% and zinc values from 123 to 5,593 ppm.
f. Based on the recommendations of the specialised thematic mapping project, exploration for base metals was taken up in the Kundiyan–Parmeshwapura to Dhamana–Devariya area and the Dindoli–Babriyakhera area.
g. The agency reported collecting nine bedrock samples from the proposed block, with fixed carbon values ranging from 1.52% to 12.63%. Based on the available data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for base-metal mineralisation through geological mapping at 1:4000 scale, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
h. The proposal was previously discussed in the 11th TCC-II meeting, wherein it was observed that nearly 40% of the originally proposed area of 43 sq. km overlapped with GSI's exploration work. Further, two G-2 stage exploration blocks of GSI and MECL also fell within the proposed block, and comments from DGM, Rajasthan, were awaited.
i. During the present review, the Committee observed that nearly 50% of the revised proposed area of 9 sq. km overlapped with a GSI G-4 stage exploration block taken up during FS 2026–27.
j. The Committee advised the agency to exclude the area overlapping with GSI's ongoing G-4 stage exploration block, where additional data generation and fortification were in progress.

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k. On examination of the available data outside GSI's block, the Committee observed that the graphite bands were lensoidal in nature and well-defined mineralised zones had not yet been established to justify G-3 stage exploration.
l. The Committee advised the agency to undertake a field visit, collect representative samples along the entire strike length of the graphite bands, establish evidence of well-defined graphite zones and their extension, and plot all available data from previous investigations on the geological map. The agency may submit a revised proposal with a modified area and strengthened supporting data for further review.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Based on Geological Survey of India (GSI) exploration work conducted during the Specialized Thematic Mapping period of 2010-13, combined with analytical data from EGCIPL (8 BRS samples have fixed carbon value is ranging between 1.52% to 12.63%), the project area exhibits potential for copper, graphite, and base metal mineralization, however the proposed area is large for G3 exploration work. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | Awaited |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee deferred the proposal, as nearly 50% of the proposed area overlaps with GSI's G-4 stage exploration block for FS 2026–27, where additional data generation is in progress.***

***Further, the identified graphite bands are lensoidal in nature, and well-defined mineralised zones have not yet been established to justify undertaking G-3 stage exploration in the proposed area.***

**Agenda 106.1.12. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Kullu–Bihara Limestone Block, District–Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IND/G3/MP/P/26-27/030)**
**[Implementing Agency: S&S Geological Consultants]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 63H/02 and 63H/06 and comprises pink, green and ash-grey shale, siltstone, calcareous sandstone and carbonate bands of the Ganurgarh Formation. The overlying Nagod Limestone consists of dark-grey massive, stromatolitic and argillaceous limestone, with subordinate shale and siltstone interbeds.
b. GSI carried out G-3 stage exploration for limestone in the Chhipta Block, Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh, during FS 2023–24, estimating 36.99 million tonnes of

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blendable/beneficiable cement-grade limestone with average CaO of 39.98% and MgO of 3.56%.

c. Bedrock samples collected from exposed limestone horizons in the Kullu–Bihara area during G-3 stage exploration recorded CaO values ranging from 26.00% to 51.57%.
d. GSI has also undertaken preliminary exploration for limestone in the Birwa–Bhitwan Block during FS 2024–25 and in the Bihara and Kullu blocks, Rewa district, during FS 2025–26.
e. In view of the available geological data and encouraging limestone potential in the adjoining areas, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to establish the lateral and vertical continuity, thickness and grade variation of limestone horizons and evaluate their cement-grade potential.
f. The proposed exploration programme includes geological mapping at 1:12,500 scale, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
g. The proposal was previously discussed in the 102nd TCC-I meeting, wherein the Committee observed that approximately 60% of the proposed block overlapped with GSI's explored block and that a G-3 stage auctionable limestone block also fell within the area. The agency subsequently excluded the overlapping areas of GSI and the G-3 auctionable block.
h. The Committee advised the agency to consult the adjacent GSI exploration report for FS 2025–26, undertake a field visit and collect representative bedrock samples. Subject to encouraging analytical results, the agency was advised to submit the DPR in the subsequent TCC-I meeting. In-principle approval was accorded to the project.
i. The agency subsequently collected one sample from the proposed area, which recorded a CaO value of 49.86%.
l. Upon review of the modified project proposal, the Committee advised the agency to undertake exploratory drilling at 800 m grid spacing, with each borehole reaching a vertical depth of 40 m.
m. The Committee recommended the proposal for consideration by the Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC).
n. No recorded Forest Area present in the recommended block.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The area is having similar lithological set up as earlier explored block therefore proposed area may be feasible for taking up the further exploration activities. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

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***The committee recommended the proposal titled "Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Kullu- Bihara Block, District: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh" for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 86.52 lakhs (including GST) with a timeline of 8 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 3A & 3B. The project will be reviewed after 3 and 6 months.***

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**Annexure 3A**

**Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Kullu- Bihara Block, District: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh**
**Area: 3.40 Sq.Km | 08 Boreholes (Depth 40 m each BH) | Total Drilling: 320 m | Exploration Period: 8 Months, Review After: 3 & 6 months**
**ME/IND/G3/MP/P/26-27/030**
**Implementing Agency: S&S Geological Consultants**

| S.No. | Main Activity | Activity | Sub Activity | Sub Sub Activity | Unit | Cost (₹) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.1 Large scale (LSM) Geological Mapping/ Traverse mapping / Detailed Mapping in Peninsular India : Large scale Geological mapping on 1:12,500, 1:10,000 1:10,000 (for coal); 1:5000, 1:4000,1:2000, 1:1,000, 1:500 ; 1:200 scale; scale including surface outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral); water sampling; pit and trench logging, pit and trench sampling; consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. *Rec. traverse Mapping (1:25000/1:50000 for KCR (Kimberlite clan of rocks}/Diamond exploration) | | | 3.4 | 62220.00 | DM & Contouring on 4000 scale |
| 2 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1a Other Geological work/studies like geochemical studies, geochemical Orientation Survey, water sampling, surface sampling, outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral), sample preparation pit & trench logging and sampling, core logging and core sampling, preparation of beneficiation samples, skeletonisation of cores etc. | a) Charges for one Geologist per day at HQ | 30 | 315000.00 | |



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| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | including planning for sampling, Boreholes etc., consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. Application of softwares for synthesis or interpretation of data at headquarter, Any other<br><br>activity in field or headquartet. | | | | |
| 3 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1a Other Geological work/studies like geochemical studies, geochemical Orientation Survey, water sampling, surface sampling, outcrop sampling (BRS/PS/PCS/Groove/Chip/Grab/ Channel/Soil/SSS/Heavy Mineral), sample preparation pit & trench logging and sampling, core logging and core sampling, preparation of beneficiation samples, skeletonisation of cores etc. including planning for sampling, Boreholes etc., consultation of literature, maps, reports etc. Application of softwares for synthesis or interpretation of data at headquarter, Any other activity in field or headquarter. | b) Charges for one Geologist per day in field (without labour) | 100 | 1450000.00 | |
| 4 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping | 1.2 Other Geological Work/Activities | 1.2.1b Sample processing work including marking of samples, core splitting, crushing and | | 31 | 243350.00 | |



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| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | | powdering of samples, coning and quartering, packing & labeling of samples, preparation of beneficiation samples etc. | | | | |
| 5 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.3 Survey Work | 1.3.1 Charges of one qualified surveyor with Total Station for carrying out topographical survey in different RF and surface contouring at different interval, fixation of borehole and determination of co- ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes with total station etc. | a) Charges of one Surveyor per day (without labour) (Up to 4 labours will be allowed per surveyor) | 20 | 210000.00 | |
| 6 | 1.0 Geological Mapping [Large scale mapping (LSM)/Detailed Mapping (DM)], Other Geological Work and Surveying | 1.3 Survey Work | 1.3.2 Demarcation of lease boundary, Fixation of borehole and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes by DGPS (including charges for labours deployed for the work) - use of CORS Network system for all DGPS is compulsary | | 12 | 288000.00 | 8 BH + 4 Cardinal Points |
| 7 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.1 Drilling: (Diamond core drilling) | 2.2.1.1c Drilling in / Drilling in Soft rock/ Strata: HQ | 320 | 1760000.00 | |



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| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | size borehole upto 400m Depth and NQ Size beyond 400m depth In case NQ size drilling is done before 400m depth, the rate shall decrease by 20% | | | |
| 8 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.7 Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30") | | 8 | 16000.00 | |
| 9 | 2.0 Mineral Investigation | 2.2 Drilling | 2.2.8 Borehole plugging by cement | | 8 | 80000.00 | |
| 10 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.17 Estimation of major oxides by XRF technique (Whole rock analysis) | 4.1.17a Major oxides (WD XRF)-(oxides+ traces -24 elements) | 250 | 1050000.00 | 240 Core samples + 10 BRS |
| 11 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.1 Chemical Analysis | 4.1.17 Estimation of major oxides by XRF technique (Whole rock analysis) | 4.1.17a Major oxides | 25 | 105000.00 | |



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| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | (WD XRF)-(oxides+ traces -24 elements) | | | |
| 12 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.3 Petrological Studies | 4.3.1 Preparation of standard thin section of rock | | 5 | 2500.00 | |
| 13 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.3 Petrological Studies | 4.3.4 Complete petrographic /ore microscopic study/mineragraphic report of rock sample ( along with 5 nos. digital photo microgrphs) | | 5 | 14000.00 | |
| 14 | 4.0 Laboratory Studies | 4.8 Geotechnical Laboratory | 4.8.3 Bulk density - Dry / Saturated | | 5 | 12500.00 | |
| 15 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.3 Drill Core Preservation | | | 250 | 397500.00 | 1 complete BH + Mineralised Zone |
| 16 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 200 | 113000 | |
| 17 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.6 Land/Crop compensation | | | 8 | 240000 | |
| 18 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 124 | 70060 | |
| 19 | 5.0 Miscellaneous Charges | 5.8 Charges for engaging skilled, semiskilled and unskilled workers for attending work associated with the mineral exploration project in the field/camp/HQ. | | | 80 | 45200 | |
| | | | **Total Charges/Cost (₹)** | | | **6474330.00** | |
| | | | **Total Drilling Cost (Rule 2.2.9) (Rule 1 Applied)** | | | **440000.00** | |
| | | | **Tendering Process Cost** | | | **0.00** | |
| | | | **Technical supervision cost** | | | **0.00** | |
| | | | **Total** | | | **6914330.00** | |



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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Peer review charge(Fixed)** | **30000.00** | |
| | **Preparation of Exploration Proposal** | **138287.00** | |
| | **Geological Report Preparation** | **250000.00** | |
| | **Total Estimated Cost without GST (₹)** | **7332617.00** | |
| | **Provision for GST (18% of I) (₹)** | **1319871.00** | |
| | **Total Estimated Cost with GST (₹)** | **8652488.00** | |

| Note: | |
|---|---|
| **1** | **Strict adherence to the Ministry of Finance's and GFR guidelines is mandatory. Every transaction must adhere to GFR rule 21** |
| **2** | **In case of delay/non- performance, the appropriate action will be taken by competent authority against delinquent agency as per prevailing govt. of India rules/guidelines on procurement** |
| **3** | **If any part of the project is outsourced, the amount will be reimbursed as per the Paragraph 3 of NMEDT SoC and Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA/NPEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.** |
| **4** | **Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.** |
| **5** | **Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.** |
| **6** | **All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency** |



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**Annexure 3B**

**Time Schedule/ Action Plan for Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Kullu- Bihara Block, Distric: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh**

| Sl.No. | Description | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | | 7 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Camp setting | MONTHS | | | | REVIEW | | | | REVIEW | | |
| 2 | Geological Mapping + BRS Sampling | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Survey work | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Laboratory studies of BRS (10 samples) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Drilling | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Sampling | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Laboratory studies | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Geological Report | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Final Geological Report | | | | | | | | | | | |



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## 106.2 Project Evaluation for In–Principle Approval

### Agenda 106.2.1. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite and Aluminous Laterite Hosted Critical Minerals (V, Sc, Ga, $TiO_2$ and REE) in Thadpathara Block, Dindori District, Madhya Pradesh. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/MP/P/26-27/287)

**[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64F/06 and is characterised by Deccan Trap basalt overlain by laterite with bauxite. The Deccan Trap succession rests unconformably over older Lameta-type gritty sandstone.
b. During 1969-70 to 1973-74, investigations were carried out for bauxite around Khamera, Khapripani, Jalda and Chara areas, Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh. The investigations reported intense weathering of the upper part of the basaltic flows, grading progressively into the overlying lateritic profile.
c. GSI conducted G-3 stage reappraisal for bauxite/aluminous laterite and possible REE mineralisation in the Khapripani Block, Bajag Tehsil, Dindori district, during FS 2021–22. Analytical results recorded $Al_2O_3$ values of 35.73–60.38%, $TiO_2$ of 3.21–11.22%, vanadium up to 1,906.2 ppm and gallium up to 105.07 ppm.
d. In view of the encouraging analytical results and the potential for critical minerals, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to evaluate vanadium, scandium, gallium, titanium and REE mineralisation.
e. The proposed exploration programme includes detailed geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical surveys and exploratory drilling to assess the mineral resource potential under the UNFC 333 category.
f. The Committee observed that GSI had previously reported local agitation in and around the proposed area and that comments from DGM, Madhya Pradesh, were awaited.
g. The Committee advised the agency to undertake a field visit, collect samples from representative vertical sections and strengthen the proposal with supporting geological and analytical data.
h. Considering the reported local agitation in nearby blocks, the agency was further advised to assess the prevailing law-and-order situation, consult the local administration and ensure that adequate measures are in place for the smooth execution of the proposed exploration work.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | During FS 2025–26, G-3 exploration in Sitalpani Block, Dindori, M.P, was kept in abeyance due to law and order issues. The proposed block shows similar geological potential for bauxite and associated critical minerals, subject to prevailing security conditions. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |

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|---|---|---|
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in the Recorded Forest Area (100%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee accorded in-principle approval to the project, subject to receipt of comments from DGM, Madhya Pradesh, and fulfilment of the following conditions by the agency: undertaking a field visit to assess the prevailing law-and-order situation in the vicinity, consulting the local administration to ensure smooth execution of the proposed exploration work, and collecting representative samples from a few vertical sections to strengthen the proposal with supporting geological and analytical data.***

***The agency may submit DPR within 3 months.***

**Agenda 106.2.2. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Base Metal in Gulganj Area, Chhatarpur District, Madhya Pradesh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/MP/P/26-27/294)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 54P/06 and forms part of the Bundelkhand Granitoid Complex. The area comprises medium-grained syenogranite intruding an earlier coarse-grained porphyritic granite phase, intersected by prominent NNE–SSW, NE–SW and NW–SE trending quartz reefs and associated mafic dykes.
b. GSI carried out specialised thematic mapping at 1:25,000 scale around Devraha and Matol, Tikamgarh district, Madhya Pradesh, during FS 2024–25. Occurrences of Cu-Mo mineralisation, associated with molybdenite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, covellite and malachite staining, were identified in hydrothermally altered monzogranite and syenogranite along quartz reefs.
c. NMDC carried out G-4 stage exploration for gold and base metals in the Nandgaon–Gora–Mahewa Block, Chhatarpur district, Madhya Pradesh, under an NMET-sponsored project during 2018–20.
d. The investigation reported base-metal anomalies associated with a NE–SW trending shear zone, quartz reefs and pyrophyllite alteration. Significant analytical values included Cu of 1,148.97 ppm, Pb of 1,160.70 ppm, Zn of 985.45 ppm, Au of 75.43 ppb and Mo of 89.06 ppm, with occurrences of pyrite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite and galena.
e. In view of the geological setting and previously reported mineralisation, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration to evaluate the base-metal potential of the proposed block.
f. The Committee observed that the proposed block overlaps with multiple G-4 stage investigation projects of GSI and AMD.
g. AMD has already carried out G-4 stage exploration in part of the proposed block and reported uranium mineralisation with $U_3O_8$ values of up to 0.36%. Further, a portion of the proposed block overlaps with AMD's follow-up exploration block.

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h. In view of multiple overlaps with GSI and AMD and reported Uranium mineralisation the committee did not recommend the proposal.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed block overlaps approximately 40–60% with GSI exploration blocks for Cu and associated mineralization under FS 2025–26 and FS 2027–28. The potential for diamond mineralization and possible duplication of exploration work may be considered before taking up further exploration. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has reported uranium mineralization up to 0.36% $U_3O_8$ in 17 grab samples from the proposed block vicinity. The proposed MMPL block may be suitably modified to avoid overlap with AMD's past work and planned future exploration. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in the Recorded Forest Area (approx. 4.8%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal due to its overlap with multiple G-4 stage investigation blocks of GSI and AMD, and the reported occurrence of uranium mineralisation within the proposed area, which is subject to further exploration by AMD.***

**Agenda 106.2.3. Preliminary Exploration (G3) of REE, RM & Associated Critical Minerals in Bodakonda Area, parts of Rangareddy District, Telangana.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/TG/P/26-27/322)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 56K/12 and 56K/16 and comprises porphyritic alkali feldspar granite, syenogranite and monzogranite of PGC-II, with associated pegmatites, quartz veins, basic dykes and alteration zones.
b. GSI carried out a reconnaissance survey (G-4 stage) for REE, rare metals (RM) and associated mineralisation in the Bodakonda and Mondi Gaurelli areas, parts of Rangareddy district, Telangana, during FS 2024–25.
c. Analytical results of bedrock samples (BRS) and pitting/trenching samples (PTS) indicated enrichment in light rare earth elements (LREE), particularly La, Ce and Nd. Total ΣREE values in BRS ranged from 77 to 8,346 ppm, with most samples recording 900–1,500 ppm.

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d. PTS samples recorded ΣREE values ranging from 445 to 3,677 ppm, with 26 out of 50 samples exceeding 2,000 ppm. Soil-regolith samples recorded values ranging from 390 to 2,111 ppm, with 36 out of 50 samples exceeding 1,000 ppm.
e. In view of the encouraging geochemical results, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to evaluate the potential for REE, rare metals and associated critical minerals.
f. The proposed exploration programme includes detailed geological mapping at 1:2,000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess the mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
g. The Committee observed that a major portion of the proposed block overlaps with GSI's G-3 stage exploration project for FS 2025–26, which is currently under execution.
h. The agency informed the Committee that bedrock and regolith samples had been collected from the proposed area; however, the analytical results were awaited.
i. The Committee advised the agency to exclude the area overlapping with GSI's ongoing G-3 stage exploration block, modify the block boundaries accordingly and submit a revised proposal supported by additional analytical data.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The Bodakonda Block (G3-stage) proposed by the M/s. Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd (MMPL) overlaps with the current Yellamma Tanda (G3-stage) project which is a spin-off item from Bodakonda and Mondi Gaurelli areas (G4 stage) of FS: 2024-25. Therefore, it is not feasible to take up further exploration in the proposed Bodakonda block by the M/s. Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd. (MMPL). |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has not carried out any exploration work in the proposed block. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | From past surveys area is feasible for REE and RM. No existing Composite License / Mining leases / Quarry Leases within the proposed Bodakonda Block. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in the Recorded Forest Area (approx. 13%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as a major portion of the proposed block overlaps with GSI's G-3 stage exploration project for FS 2025–26, which is currently under execution. The agency was advised to exclude the overlapping GSI area, modify the block boundaries accordingly and submit a revised proposal incorporating additional analytical data.***

**Agenda 106.2.4. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) For Lithium and Associated Rare Metals in Badaidi Block, Korba Districts, Chhattisgarh.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/CT/P/26-27/298)**

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**[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64J/6 and is predominantly underlain by migmatite, gneiss, quartz-mica schist and granitoids of the Chhotanagpur Gneissic Complex (CGC), intruded by pegmatite and quartz veins, with younger sedimentary cover of the Talchir Formation.
b. Mishra and Badapanda (FS: 2018–19), during G4-stage exploration around Katghora and Ghatara, reported lithium concentrations of 1,613–4,000 ppm in pink and golden-brown mica, with elevated Rb (800–8,000 ppm), Cs (15–500 ppm) and Nb (80–783 ppm).
c. Gupta et al. (FS: 2023–24), during G4-stage exploration for lithium and associated rare metals in the Raha and Ramkachhar areas, reported lithium values of 2.5–2,034.42 ppm in bedrock samples, with the maximum in muscovite separated from pegmatite and the second-highest value of 1,440.91 ppm in monzogranite.
d. Analytical results of PTS samples indicate lithium values of 184.2–2,348.22 ppm, Cs of 15.93–948.52 ppm, Nb of 10.38–130.5 ppm, Ta up to 80.1 ppm (average 8.46 ppm), and Rb of 161.5–530.04 ppm (average 331.40 ppm).
e. Despite the reported lithium and associated rare-metal anomalies, the agency has proposed preliminary exploration (G3 stage) for lead (Pb) and associated base metals in the block.
f. The proposed work programme includes detailed mapping at 1:4,000 scale, pitting and trenching, and exploratory drilling with sampling to assess mineral resources under the UNFC G3 category.
g. The committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the entire proposed block overlaps with the G4-stage exploration block of AMD, where the potential for uranium and other critical minerals has been established and further exploration is planned. Accordingly, the committee did not recommend the proposal.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed Badaidi block has 100% overlap with GSI's previous G-4 exploration (FS 2023–24) and approximately 50% overlap with upcoming G-3 exploration (FS 2027–28) for lithium and associated rare metals. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has established uranium and critical mineral potential through G-4 exploration, and the proposed block falls within AMD's explored area. In view of planned follow-up exploration, the proposed block is not recommended. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | No past or ongoing exploration for lithium and associated rare metals in the proposed Badaidi block. Baseline data is unavailable, and no QL/ML/CL has been sanctioned in the block. |

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|---|---|---|
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in the Recorded Forest Area (approx. 100%) and The proposed area is partly covered by the ongoing GSI Mission-II FS project for 2026–2027. (Preliminary Exploration For Lithium And Associated Rare Metals In Raha Block,Korba District, Chhattisgarh (G3)). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the entire proposed block overlaps with the G4-stage exploration block of AMD, where the potential for uranium and other critical minerals has been established and further exploration is planned.***

**Agenda 106.2.5. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Copper, Lead and Zinc mineralization in Thani block Area, Betul District, Madhya Pradesh. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/MP/P/26-27/281)**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Wattfin Ventures Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheets 55J/04 and 55K/01, comprising a volcano-sedimentary sequence of metasediments, quartz-mica schists, metarhyolite and metabasalt, intruded by granites, pegmatites, quartz veins and basic dykes of the Betul Group.
b. During FS 1998–2000, GSI carried out G-3 stage prospecting for base metal mineralisation at Ghisi, Muariya and Chardongri in Betul and Chhindwara districts, Madhya Pradesh.
c. A total of 1,174.70 m of drilling was completed in six boreholes at 100 m intervals, establishing an ore body with a strike extension of up to 500 m and an average width of 3.16 m.An ore resource of 0.25 million tonnes was estimated, grading 2.78% Zn, 0.68% Pb, 0.26% Cu and 44.75 ppm Ag.
d. During FS 2024–25, GSI conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance for Cu-Pb-Zn and associated mineralisation around Anwariya, Belond, Bakud and Jamdehi Khurd in Betul district.
e. Geochemical analysis revealed significant metal enrichment, including Cu (1,400 ppm) and Zn (1,050 ppm) in soil sample S/191 from Thani, and Cu (540 ppm), Pb (790 ppm) and Zn (1,015 ppm) in sample S/28 from Ghisi.
f. Trench samples yielded values of up to 1,270 ppm Zn, 3,150 ppm Pb and 2,000 ppm Cu, indicating promising base metal potential, particularly in the Thani-Ghisi zone.
g. Based on the above findings, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration for copper, lead and zinc, involving geological mapping at 1:2000 scale, pitting/trenching, exploratory drilling and sampling to assess mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
h. The committee observed that the existing sampling density is sparse and copper values are low. The agency was advised to conduct a field visit, collect representative samples and supporting evidence of copper mineralisation, and establish the continuity and potentiality of the mineralised zone. The proposal was not considered for G-3 stage exploration due to inadequate supporting data.

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| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed block is near the explored Ghisi block, where low-grade base-metal mineralisation was reported during FS 2016–17 (G-2). The feasibility of the taking up the proposed block may be subjected to overall grade of mineralization in Ghisi and surrounded area. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD established uranium mineralisation through G-4 exploration, with grab samples assaying up to 0.084% $U_3O_8$. Samples also indicate Zn, Cu, V and Ni; hence, uranium analysis may be included in the proposed exploration. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, proposed block falls in the Recorded Forest Area (approx. 32%) however Tiger Reserve and Wild life Corriders were falling on buffer zone of the proposed block. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal in its present form, as the existing sampling density is sparse and the analytical values of copper are low. Based on the available data, the proposed block is not considered suitable for taking up G-3 stage exploration.***

***The committee advised the agency to conduct a field visit, collect representative samples covering the entire area, and establish the continuity of the mineralised zone and the overall mineral potential of the block.***

**Agenda 106.2.6. Preliminary exploration (G-3) for Vanadium and associated critical minerals in lateritic rocks of Yerandi block, Bidar District, Karnataka.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/KA/P/26-27/301)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 56C/13 and is underlain by Deccan Trap basalts capped by laterite.
b. During FS 2024–25, GSI carried out a critical mineral assessment for vanadium and associated critical minerals in the lateritic rocks of Mudbi block, Bidar district, Karnataka.
c. Four mineralised zones were delineated, each showing significant enrichment in vanadium (V > 1,500 ppm) and scandium (Sc > 100 ppm).
d. Scout borehole KBM-03 confirmed subsurface mineralisation, intersecting a 1.9 m thick mineralised zone with a weighted average of 1,860.68 ppm V, equivalent to approximately 0.25% $V_2O_5$.
e. Based on these findings, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to evaluate the resource potential of vanadium and associated critical minerals.

f. The proposed work includes detailed geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical surveys and exploratory drilling to assess resources under the UNFC 333 category.
g. The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the vanadium values in the samples collected from the proposed block were not encouraging and no additional data had been generated by the agency. Based on the available database, the block was not considered suitable for G-3 stage exploration.
h. The committee advised the agency to conduct a field visit, collect representative samples covering the entire area, and establish the continuity of the mineralised zone and the overall mineral potential of the block.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Based on the exploration carried out in and around the proposed NPEA block, the area may be feasible for further exploration. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has not carried out any exploration work in the proposed block. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | The proposed block falls within its regional ferruginous laterite survey area (Report No. 342) and completely overlaps with the GSI FS 2024–25 block for vanadium, scandium and associated critical minerals and no CL/MI exists, Further consideration may be based on the outcome of GSI investigations. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects However, the Ilhal block (newly proposed in-principle block by the agency) is present within the buffer zone. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal in the present form, as the existing analytical values of vanadium are low and the available data are insufficient to justify G-3 stage exploration in the proposed block.***

***The committee advised the agency to conduct a field visit, collect representative samples covering the entire area, and establish the continuity of the mineralised zone and the overall mineral potential of the block.***

**Agenda 106.2.7. Preliminary exploration (G-3) for Vanadium and associated critical minerals in lateritic rocks of Ilhal block, Bidar District, Karnataka. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/KA/P/26-27/300)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 56C/13 and is underlain by Deccan Trap basalt capped by laterite.

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b. During FS 2024–25, GSI carried out a critical mineral assessment for vanadium and associated critical minerals in the lateritic rocks of Mudbi block, Bidar district, Karnataka.
c. Four mineralised zones were delineated, showing enrichment in vanadium (V > 1,500 ppm) and scandium (Sc > 100 ppm).
d. Zone-I, north of Ilhal, extends 1,981 m along strike and 881.5 m in width, with V concentrations ranging from 608 to 2,435 ppm (median: 1,548 ppm) in 13 samples.
e. Zone-II, west of Ilhal, covers 2,217.9 m × 907.8 m, with V values ranging from 899 to 3,047 ppm (median: 1,535 ppm) and Sc values up to 140 ppm (median: 79 ppm) across 12 samples.
f. Zone-III, southeast of Ilhal, extends 2,110 m along strike and up to 1,308.4 m in width, with V concentrations ranging from 507 to 1,825 ppm (median: 1,354.5 ppm) in 12 samples.
g. Scout borehole KBM-03 confirmed subsurface mineralisation, intersecting a 1.9 m thick zone with a weighted average of 1,860.68 ppm V, equivalent to approximately 0.25% $V_2O_5$.
h. Based on the above findings, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to assess the resource potential of vanadium and associated critical minerals through geological mapping at 1:4000 scale, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical surveys and exploratory drilling under the UNFC 333 category.
i. The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the entire proposed block overlaps with an approved G-3 stage exploration project for FS 2027–28.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Based on the exploration carried out within and in the vicinity of the proposed NPEA block, the area appears to have favourable exploration potential. Accordingly, GSI has already proposed to undertake further exploration in the area For FS 2027-28 (Ilhal and Jafarwadi Blocks). |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has not carried out any exploration work in the proposed block. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | The proposed block falls within its regional ferruginous laterite survey area (Report No. 342) and completely overlaps with the GSI FS 2024–25 block for vanadium, scandium and associated critical minerals and no CL/MI exists, Further consideration may be based on the outcome of GSI investigations. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects However, the Yerandi block (newly proposed in-principle block by the agency) is present within the buffer zone. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the entire proposed block overlaps with an approved G-3 stage exploration project for FS 2027–28.***

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**Agenda 106.2.8. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Copper in Pungankulam block, Madurai district, Tamil Nadu.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/TN/P/26-27/285)**
**[Implementing Agency: BMRC Geomining Solutions]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 58G/13 and is underlain by charnockites, garnetiferous gneiss, granite gneiss, calc-silicate rocks with diopside-rich bands, and amphibolites of the Southern Granulite Terrain.
b. GSI carried out an E-I stage investigation of copper occurrences near Josiar, Alangulam, Madurai district, during FS 1965.
c. Drilling of 1,539 m through 14 boreholes confirmed three mineralised zones with a cumulative strike length of 410 m and widths ranging from 0.82 m to 7.14 m.
d. An indicated reserve of 361,744 tonnes of copper ore grading 0.4% Cu was estimated, with mineralisation extending to depths of 40–100 m across the three blocks.
e. The agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to evaluate copper mineralisation through detailed geological mapping at 1:2,000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling under the UNFC G-3 category.
f. The committee observed that borehole data were not available with the agency. NMEDT will communicate with SU: Tamil Nadu to obtain the relevant report, and the agency was advised to plot all available data and strengthen the proposal accordingly.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed Pungankulam Block has 100% overlap with the area previously explored by GSI, which estimated 361,744 tonnes of copper ore grading 0.4% Cu across three mineralised zones. GSI concluded that the area was not economically promising due to low grade and tonnage, limited depth persistence and irregular ore-body geometry. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee deferred consideration of the proposal and advised the agency to strengthen the proposal by incorporating all available subsurface data and resubmit it for in-principle approval.***

**Agenda 106.2.9. Proposal for Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Graphite, Vanadium and associated Minerals in Basauri-Gangtar-baliyai Area, Almora & Nainital District, Uttarakhand.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/UK/P/26-27/263)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited]**

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a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 53-O/10 and is predominantly underlain by phyllitic rocks, including carbonaceous phyllite, quartzite and schist of the Gumalikhet Formation of the Almora Group.
b. GSI conducted Regional Geochemical Mapping under the NGCM programme during FS 2004–05 and 2005–06 in parts of the Central Garhwal and Kumaon regions, reporting anomalous values of Ba (25–1,802 ppm), Zr (33–322 ppm), V (10–226 ppm), Cr (7.5–408 ppm), Li (79.50–144 ppm) and W (1.10–887.26 ppm) in stream sediment samples.
c. During FS 2022–23, GSI carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance for vanadium and associated metals in black shales around Nishni–Malta, Almora district, identifying potential carbonaceous phyllite/black shale zones near Palna–Asota bend, Dhaura, Nishni–Katyari, Viswanath Bridge, Huna and Khirauli, as well as a new potential zone near Pithauni village.
d. GSI subsequently carried out G-3 stage preliminary exploration during FS 2024–25, delineating six carbonaceous phyllite bands (A–F) with surface vanadium concentrations ranging from 160 to 2,981 ppm (median: 1,370 ppm).
e. Three boreholes (UKANM-01, UKANM-02 and UKANM-03), totalling 252 m of drilling, were completed in the Palna area. Vanadium concentrations ranged from 127 to 3,080 ppm in Bands A and B in borehole UKANM-02, and from 89 to 2,924 ppm in Bands C–F in borehole UKANM-03.
f. The drilled core samples from UKANM-02 and UKANM-03 also revealed anomalous molybdenum concentrations ranging from 1.33 to 201.86 ppm, with a median of 33.34 ppm.
g. M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd. conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance for graphite and vanadium over 60 sq. km in the Matena–Sirar area during FS 2024–26 under an NMEDT-funded project. Results indicated encouraging potential, with fixed carbon (FC) values reaching 8.40% and vanadium concentrations up to 3,486 ppm.
h. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration to assess graphite, vanadium and associated mineral potential through geological mapping at 1:12500 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling, with resource assessment under the UNFC G-4 category.
i. The committee advised the agency to plot all available data on the map of the proposed block and conduct a field visit to collect representative channel samples covering the entire area. If the analytical results are encouraging, the agency may prepare and submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR).

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Carbonate–phyllite bands are mainly reported in the northern part of the proposed area, while NGCM analytical data indicate limited mineral potential. Any additional promising geological or analytical data may be incorporated into the proposal for a comprehensive assessment. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |

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| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 15.20%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee deferred consideration of the proposal, as the data presented by the agency were inadequate. The agency was advised to plot all available data on the map of the proposed block, conduct a field visit and collect representative channel samples covering the entire area. If the analytical results are encouraging, the agency may prepare and submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR).***

**Agenda 106.2.10. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Graphite, Vanadium and associated Minerals in Deghat- Bagoligurana area, Almora & Garhwal District, Uttarakhand.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/UK/P/26-27/284)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 53-O/10 and is underlain by Lesser Himalayan rocks, including garnetiferous mica schist, flaky quartzite, chlorite schist, fine-grained quartzite and carbonaceous schist of the Gorakhnath Formation of the Almora Group.
b. During FS 2022–24, GSI carried out specialised thematic mapping at 1:25000 scale in parts of Pauri, Chamoli and Almora districts, covering areas around Chaukhutiya, Panduakhal, Syaldae, Jogimari, Jaurasi, Deghat and Bironkhal.
c. Bedrock samples revealed anomalous vanadium concentrations of 51–425 ppm in garnet mica schist, up to 478 ppm in graphite quartzite, and 227–356 ppm in metabasic rocks and metagabbro.
d. Significant barium enrichment was also recorded, with Ba concentrations of 564–11,491 ppm in garnet mica schist, 2,654 ppm in graphite quartzite, and 193–3,754 ppm in metabasic rocks and metagabbro.
e. GSI's Regional Geochemical Mapping under the NGCM programme during FS 2004–05 and 2005–06 reported anomalous stream sediment values within the proposed block, including Ba (1,112–2,121 ppm), Zr (208–512 ppm), V (39–153 ppm) and total rare earth elements (TREE) of 136–415 ppm.
f. Based on the available data, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration to evaluate graphite, vanadium and associated mineral potential through geological mapping at 1:12500 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling, with resource assessment under the UNFC G-4 category.
g. The committee deferred the proposal, as the data presented by the agency were inadequate. The committee advised the agency to conduct a field visit, establish evidence of mineralisation, collect representative samples covering the entire area and submit revised proposal for in-principle approval.
h. As per comments received from GSI, the entire proposed block overlaps with a proposed G-4 stage exploration project for FS 2027–28, which has not yet been approved. NMEDT secretariat to get confirmation from GSI.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
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| 1. | GSI | Carbonate–phyllite bands are mainly identified in the central part of the proposed area. Analytical results of samples collected by GSI during 2022–24 indicate that Vanadium (V) concentrations range from 51 to 425 ppm in garnet mica schist, with a value of 478 ppm in graphite quartzite. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 6.2%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee deferred the proposal due to inadequate data and advised the agency to undertake a field visit, establish evidence of mineralisation, collect representative samples across the entire area, and submit a revised proposal for in-principle approval.***

**Agenda 106.2.11. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Graphite, Vanadium and associated Minerals in Surkot- Kalakotdhoraj area, Champawat District, Uttarakhand.**

**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/UK/P/26-27/292)**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 62/03 and is predominantly underlain by carbonaceous phyllite, quartzite and schist of the Gumalikhet Formation of the Almora Group.
b. GSI conducted Regional Geochemical Mapping under the NGCM programme during FS 2020–21 in parts of Toposheets 62C/3 and 62C/7, covering Pithoragarh and Almora districts, which revealed anomalous Ba (272–6,901 ppm) and V (43–569 ppm) values in carbonaceous phyllite.
c. During FS 2020–21, Bauri and Rout investigated vanadium and other critical minerals in metamorphosed black shales of the Almora Group, reporting anomalous values of $K_2O$ (up to 7.25%), V (62–3,170 ppm), Mo (0.82–177.16 ppm), Ba (562–21,159 ppm), Cr (26–974 ppm) and fixed carbon (1.32–7.24%).
d. GSI conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance for vanadium and associated metals over 50 sq. km in the southwestern part of the proposed block (Toposheet 62C/3), recording V values of 33–5,212 ppm, Ba of 164–40,518 ppm, Y of 23–444 ppm, Mo of 0.85–288 ppm and fixed carbon of 1.25–5.29% in bedrock and channel samples.
e. A further G-4 stage reconnaissance survey during FS 2024–25 over 50 sq. km west of the proposed block (Toposheet 53O/15) reported V concentrations of 10–2,842 ppm and Ba of 82–7,821 ppm in bedrock samples, with fixed carbon of 0.53–3.51%.
f. Channel samples from the western area showed comparatively higher enrichment, with V values of 93–4,260 ppm and Ba values of 410–28,529 ppm, indicating potential for vanadium and associated mineralisation.
g. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration to evaluate graphite, vanadium and associated critical mineral potential through geological

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mapping at 1:12500 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory scout drilling, with assessment under the UNFC G-4 category.

h. The committee advised the agency to plot all available data on the geological map, conduct a field visit, collect representative channel samples and strengthen the database. If the results are encouraging, the agency may resubmit the proposal for further review.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
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| 1. | GSI | The southern part of the proposed block overlaps with investigated block of GSI_G4_FS_2022-2023 (Champawat district). In view of the presence of encouraging V and Ba values, the study area has a promising potential for Vanadium resource. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area (app. 3%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee deferred consideration of the proposal, as the agency had not adequately justified the proposal. The agency was advised to plot all available data on the geological map, conduct a field visit, collect representative channel samples and strengthen the database. If the results are encouraging, the agency may resubmit the proposal for further review.***

**Agenda 106.2.12. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Nb-Ta in granite and associated rocks near Chalivendra area, Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/AP/P/26-27/267)**

**[Implementing Agency: Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 57M/09 and forms part of the northern Nellore Schist Belt (NSB), predominantly comprising younger granitic intrusions represented by hornblende-biotite granite and biotite granite.

b. During FS 2023–24, GSI conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance for REE-RM mineralisation in granite and associated rocks in the Chalivendra–Marlapalem area, Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh, collecting 91 bedrock samples.

c. Analytical results of the 91 bedrock samples indicated $Nb_2O_5$+$Ta_2O_5$ concentrations of 33.00–1,332.84 ppm (average: 228.78 ppm) and $Nb_2O_5$ concentrations of 32.00–1,064.18 ppm (average: 214.32 ppm).

d. Within the proposed Chalivendra block, nine bedrock samples showed $Nb_2O_5$+$Ta_2O_5$ values of 127.51–382.29 ppm (average: 238.92 ppm) and $Nb_2O_5$ values of 125.71–369.07 ppm (average: 230.69 ppm). TREE concentrations ranged from 937.86 to 2,216.96 ppm, averaging 1,379.40 ppm.

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e. Based on the available data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to evaluate REE-RM potential through detailed geological mapping at 1:2000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory scout drilling.
f. The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed block overlaps with a GSI-approved G-3 stage exploration block for FS 2027–28.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed NPEA block falls within the previously investigated Chalivendra–Marlapalem G4 Block (FS 23-24) and overlaps with the ongoing RMT block (FS 2026–27). The proposed block may not be considered feasible to avoid duplication of work. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | In view of the planned follow up exploration for atomic and critical minerals by AMD, the proposed block is not recommended. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed block overlaps with a GSI-approved G-3 stage exploration block for FS 2027–28.***

**Agenda 106.2.13. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for High Purity Quartz near Chemrey village, Leh District, Ladakh (Chemrey block). (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/LA/P/26-27/277)**

**[Implementing Agency: Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 52G/13 and 52F/16 and comprises leucogranite of the Ladakh Granitoid Complex (LGC).
b. Singh and Gupta (FS 1985–86) conducted systematic geological studies in parts of Toposheets 52F/12, 52F/16, 52G/9 and 52G/13, reporting $SiO_2$ concentrations ranging from 52.34 to 89.10 wt% in different LGC variants, including biotite granite, granodiorite, diorite, microgranite and leucogranite.
c. During FS 2013–14, GSI conducted a G-4 stage resource survey for dimensional and decorative granite in the Ladakh Granitoid Complex, Southeast Ladakh, reporting $SiO_2$ values of 50.44–77.06% in granite bedrock samples.
d. NGCM investigations by Thapa and Prakash during FS 2023–24 in Toposheet 52G/13 reported $SiO_2$ concentrations of 25.11–65.57 wt% in stream sediments, with an average of 57.76 wt%.
e. Based on the available data, the agency proposed G-4 stage exploration for high-purity quartz through detailed geological mapping at 1:2000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory scout drilling.
f. The committee observed that the proposed work framework involved intensive laboratory testing and mineral processing, with a greater emphasis on research and

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development (R&D) than on mineral exploration. The committee did not approve project in-principle.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | In the stream sediments collected from proposed area, SiO2 values ranging between 25.11 wt% to 65.57 wt% with average vale 57.76 wt%. On the basis of available analytical data, it is interpreted that the SiO2 value is less, for it to be used as High Purity Quartz. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | Awaited |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | There are no existing major or minor mineral blocks in the proposed area, meaning no composite licenses or mining leases have been issued. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however Overlap with ESZ buffer 10 km, surrounded by Wildlife Corridor. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal for in-principle approval, as the proposed work, considering its timeline, framework and significance, was not considered suitable for a mineral exploration project.***

**Agenda 106.2.14. Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of Ti-V bearing Magnetite in Betei Block (Area – 2.0 Sq.Km), Baleshwar District, Odisha. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/OD/P/26-27/268)**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Geo Consultants Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 73 K/7 and 73 K/11, forming part of the southeastern Singhbhum–North Odisha Craton. The area exposes metasedimentary rocks of the Iron Ore Supergroup along with a variety of plutono-magmatic associations.
b. The committee was apprised that the major part of the area falls in Wildlife Sanctuary and ESZ and hence the proposal was not discussed.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | DMG, Odisha's investigations (FS 1981–84) concluded that the vanadiferous magnetite deposits at Rangmatia (21,120 tonnes) and Betei have limited reserves and low $V_2O_5$ content (0.380–1.238% at Rangmatia), and therefore do not merit further investigation. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | On examination of the group plan, it is observed that the proposed area does not overlap with any other block. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however Proposed block falls within the Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary (app. 90%), ESZ (app. 28%), Protected Area, Recorded Forest Area (app. 74%) and Wildlife Corridor. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as a major portion of the proposed block overlaps with the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) and Wildlife Sanctuary.***

**Agenda 106.2.15. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for exploration of critical minerals (Ti, Zr, Rb, V, Ce, Nd & other associated REE) around Malipali, District Balangir, Odisha.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/OD/P/26-27/278)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s Geo Consultants Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. F44X6 (64P/6) and forms part of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt. The area is represented by khondalite, calc-granulite, pyroxene granulite, charnockite, quartzo-feldspathic rocks and garnetiferous granite gneiss, intruded by pegmatites and quartz veins.
b. While reviewing the comments from different agencies, committee noted that the proposed area overlaps with earlier work of DoMG, Odisha. The area also overlaps with the GSI block approved for 2027-28.
c. In view of above, the proposal was not approved.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | REE block has been planned by GSI which is going to be undertaken in FS: 2027-28.The proposed block is overlapping with the planned REE block of GSI. DMG, Odisha, conducted litho-structural mapping for refractory minerals in the Luhurenpali area during FS 2012–13, and the proposed block completely overlaps with the previously explored area. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | The proposed block overlaps with the Luhurenpali area of Deogaon Block in Balangir district which is covered by DoMG, Odisha in Field Season- 2012-13. |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however Proposed block falls within the Recorded Forest Area (app. 8%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

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***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the major portion of the proposed block overlaps with the area already covered by DoMG, Odisha, and a GSI-approved G-4 stage exploration project for FS 2027–28.***

**Agenda 106.2.16. Preliminary G-3 Stage Exploration for Cu associated with Co and Au in Vengappally Block (MZ-I) in Wayanad District, Kerala.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/KL/P/26-27/272)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s. Sathi Planners Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 58A/02. The major lithounit exposed in the area is hornblende-biotite gneiss, intruded by quartz and quartz-carbonate veins associated with hydrothermal alteration and sulphide mineralisation.
b. While reviewing the comments from different agencies, committee noted that the committee noted that the proposed block overlaps with the Geological Memorandum (GM) block for copper and associated minerals handed over by GSI for auction on 13.01.2026, which is currently under the auction process. Hence, the proposal was not considered.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed entire area of 2.36 sq. km for G-3 exploration by SPPL is completely overlapping with the submitted Vengappally GM block. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the entire proposed block overlaps with a Geological Memorandum block for copper and associated minerals handed over by GSI for auction, which is currently under the auction process.***

**Agenda 106.2.17. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Potash Mineralization in Amrora Block (2.85 Sq. Km.), Garhwa District, Jharkhand.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/JH/P/26-27/282)**
**[Implementing Agency: M/s. Sathi Planners Private Limited]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64P/7 and comprises granite and gneiss of the Chhotanagpur Granite Gneissic Complex (CGGC), quartz-mica schist of the Mahakoshal Group, and sedimentary rocks of the Lower Vindhyan (Semri Group), including sandstone, dolomitic limestone, conglomerate, porcellanite and shale.

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b. During FS 2024–25, GSI conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance for glauconite and associated mineralisation in the Khokha–Sisri–Amrora areas of Garhwa district, Jharkhand.
c. Potash analysis revealed $K_2O$ concentrations exceeding 5% in 42 bedrock samples, reaching a maximum of 9.59%. Five of the ten trenches recorded average $K_2O$ values above 5%, with a maximum average of 9.21%, mainly associated with grey, green, buff, khaki and porcellanitic shale.
d. Three potential zones were delineated: Khokha–Mohini–Husru, where 20 samples recorded 5–8% $K_2O$ (average 5.8%); Lami Saraiya–Kharaundhi, where 15 samples recorded 6–9.6% $K_2O$ (average 7.14%); and Rohinian–Majhigaon, where $K_2O$ values ranged from 5.2% to 8%, with Trench 4 averaging 5.8% in khaki shale.
e. Based on these findings, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to evaluate potash-bearing shale horizons through detailed geological mapping at 1:4000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory scout drilling to assess mineral resources under the UNFC G-3 category.
f. The committee observed that the proposal was based on GSI's G-4 stage investigation and that the agency had furnished inadequate evidence of potash mineralisation or identified the potash-bearing mineral phases. The committee advised the agency to conduct a field visit, establish evidence of potash mineralisation and its controlling factors, identify the potash-bearing mineral phases, and support the findings with analytical data before submitting a Detailed Project Report (DPR).

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The GSI, Ranchi has not taken up further exploration for Potash/Phosphate in the area in G-3 stage of investigation. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | In view of known potentiality for uranium in the contiguous area, analysis of uranium may be included in the list of elements to be analysed. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however Proposed block falls within the Recorded Forest Area (app. 85%). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee accorded in-principle approval for the project and advised the agency to conduct a field visit, establish evidence of potash mineralisation and its controlling factors, identify the potash-bearing mineral phases, and substantiate the findings with analytical data before submitting a Detailed Project Report (DPR).***

***The agency may submit DPR within 3 months.***

**Agenda 106.2.18. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for REE and associated minerals in Utla block in East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/AP/P/26-27/289)**

**[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]**

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a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 65G/15 and forms part of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB), which is predominantly composed of charnockite, garnet-sillimanite gneiss, garnet-biotite gneiss and manganiferous gneiss.
b. While reviewing the comments from different agencies, the committee noted that approximately 80% of the proposed block has already been covered by GSI and that a G-2 stage exploration block of GSI also falls within the proposed area.
c. The committee advised the agency to exclude the overlapping areas, as nearly 70% of the proposed block overlaps with GSI's G-4 stage exploration blocks, one of which has been upgraded to G-3 and G-2 stages. The agency was advised to revise the block boundary considering the geological potential of the area and submit a fresh proposal for in-principle approval.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | Approximately 80% of the proposed block has been covered by GSI's G-4 exploration, with an ongoing G-2 graphite exploration block falling within the proposed area. Only the unexplored portion may be considered for G-4 exploration to avoid duplication of work. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has not carried out any exploration work in the proposed block. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | No NMEDT-funded blocks overlap with the proposed block in NGDR. The block has ~7.30% recorded forest area and overlaps with GSI's G-2 graphite project (FS 2025–26) and reconnaissance survey (FS 2023–24). |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as nearly 70% of the proposed area overlaps with GSI's G-4 stage exploration blocks, one of which has been upgraded to G-3 and G-2 stages.***

***The committee advised the agency to exclude the overlapping areas, revise the block boundary considering the geological potential of the remaining area, and submit a fresh proposal for in-principle approval.***

**Agenda 106.2.19. Preliminary Survey (G3 Stage) for REE and Associated Minerals in Mettujogippatti Block in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/TN/P/26-27/291)**

**[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 57L/7 and exposes a diverse lithological assemblage comprising charnockite, gneiss, pyroxene granulite, quartzite, amphibolite, schist and granite. These rocks are intruded by metapyroxenite, carbonatite and syenite, which occupy a major part of the central area, with additional minor occurrences of carbonatite.

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b. KIOCL carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance for Rare Earth Elements (REE) and rare metals (Sc and Nb) in the Samalpatti block, Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu, during FS 2024–25 under an NMET-funded project. A total of 15 carbonatite bands were identified across three sub-blocks, with REE concentrations ranging from 531 ppm to 13,917 ppm.
c. The committee did not recommend the proposal, as AMD had carried out reconnaissance surveys in different phases in and around the proposed block, with grab samples recording up to 0.035% $U_3O_8$ and 0.11% $ThO_2$. AMD has also proposed further follow-up exploration in the area. Hence, the proposed block was not considered for exploration.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed Mettujogippatti Block (G-3) encompasses Carbonatite Bands 1 and 2, which exhibit average TREE values ranging from 3,000 ppm to approximately 5,000 ppm in surface, trench, and core samples. Considering the encouraging TREE values recorded across these two bands, the area may be considered for G-3 stage exploration in consultation with KIOCL. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block completely overlaps with MECL's upcoming exploration block, for which consent has been sought from DMG, Tamil Nadu. Hence, the block is not recommended for exploration at this stage. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD reported uranium and thorium indications of up to 0.035% $U_3O_8$ and 0.11% $ThO_2$, respectively. In view of the known uranium potential and planned future follow-up exploration by AMD, the proposed block is not recommended. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | This project is an up gradation of the NMEDT funded project. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal in view of the uranium and Thorium potential reported by AMD in the area and the follow-up exploration planned by AMD.***

**Agenda 106.2.20. Preliminary Survey (G3 Stage) for REE and Associated Minerals in Onnagarai Block in Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/TN/P/26-27/302)**
**[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 57L/7 and exposes charnockite, gneiss, pyroxene granulite, quartzite, amphibolite, schist and granite. These lithounits are intruded by metapyroxenite, carbonatite and syenite, which occupy a major part of the central area, with minor occurrences of carbonatite in nearby area.

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b. KIOCL carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance for Rare Earth Elements (REE) and rare metals (Sc and Nb) in the Samalpatti block, Krishnagiri district, Tamil Nadu, during FS 2024–25 under an NMET-funded project. A total of 15 carbonatite bands were identified across three sub-blocks, with total rare earth element (TREE) concentrations reaching up to 13,054 ppm, comprising La (2,954 ppm), Ce (6,226 ppm), Nd (1,996 ppm), Pr (594 ppm) and Sm (337 ppm).
c. The committee did not recommend the proposal, as AMD had carried out reconnaissance surveys in different phases in and around the proposed block, with grab samples recording up to 0.035% $U_3O_8$ and 0.11% $ThO_2$. AMD has also proposed further follow-up exploration in the area. Hence, the proposed block was not considered for exploration.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The carbonatite bodies identified in Sub-Block 3 by KIOCL during G4 exploration are of limited extent (2.5m to 70m), a critical evaluation of the proposed block under G-3 stage is considered essential prior to its approval, in consultation with KIOCL. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block completely overlaps with MECL's upcoming exploration block, for which consent has been sought from DMG, Tamil Nadu. Hence, the block is not recommended for exploration at this stage. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD reported uranium and thorium indications of up to 0.035% $U_3O_8$ and 0.11% $ThO_2$, respectively. In view of the known uranium potential and planned future follow-up exploration by AMD, the proposed block is not recommended. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | NA |
| 5. | NMEDT | This project is an up gradation of the NMEDT funded project. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal in view of the uranium and Thorium potential reported by AMD in the area and the follow-up exploration planned by AMD.***

**Agenda 106.2.21. Preliminary (G3 stage) exploration for Iron ore and Manganese minerals in Paklu Buru West block, Kendujhar district, Odisha.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/OD/P/26-27/342)**
**[Implementing Agency: NRD Tata]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 73 F/08 (F45H8) and forms part of the Jamda–Koira valley of the Horse-Shoe Synclinorium, within the Bonai–Keonjhar Iron Ore Mineral Belt.
b. The committee did not recommend the proposal in its present form, as the major portion of the proposed block overlaps with areas previously covered by GSI, a GSI-approved G-3 stage exploration project for FS 2027–28, and multiple auction blocks. The

committee advised the agency to exclude the overlapping areas, revise the block boundary and resubmit the proposal for in-principle approval.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed block overlaps with GSI's upcoming G-3 iron ore exploration block (FS 2027–28) and north eastern part of the proposed block is overlapping with Sidhamath Iron auctioned Block given to M/s Dharamchand Jain. Hence, it is not suitable for G-3 exploration for iron ore and manganese in its current form. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has not carried out any exploration work in the proposed block. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Awaited |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block partially overlaps with the GSI_G3_FS_2024–25 (Paklu Buru East Block). The area also overlaps with exploration license (EL) blocks undertaken by exploration agencies at G-4, G-3 and G-2 stages. The proposed block lies entirely within the recorded forest area. No NMEDT-funded blocks overlap with the proposed block. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the major portion of the proposed block overlaps with a GSI-approved G-3 stage exploration project for FS 2027–28 and multiple auction blocks.***

***The committee advised the agency to exclude the overlapping areas, revise the block boundary and resubmit the proposal for in-principle approval.***

**Agenda 106.2.22. Preliminary exploration for Copper- Lead- Zinc, Gold and associated minerals in Rajpur block (6.40 sq. km), Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh**

**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/CT/P/26-27/296)**

**[Implementing Agency: Bhushilp Mines & Minerals Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64K/11 and comprises tuff, anorthositic gabbro, metagabbro, metarhyolite, massive amygdular basalt, metaconglomerate, phyllite/foliated metabasalt, BIF and quartzo-feldspathic rocks, intruded by quartz veins and porphyritic leucogranite.
b. During FS 2019–20, GSI conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance for gold and associated sulphide mineralisation in the Chanat–Jogidadar areas of Mahasamund district, Chhattisgarh, establishing encouraging evidence of gold mineralisation.
c. Geochemical investigations involved the collection of 100 bedrock samples and 50 pit/trench samples from zones characterised by ferruginisation, silicification, quartz veining, sulphide mineralisation and hydrothermal alteration.
d. Bedrock samples recorded gold concentrations ranging from 65 ppb to 1.9 ppm Au, with notable values of 1.9 ppm (CJ-BRS-34), 1.2 ppm (CJ-BRS-123) and 1.1 ppm (CJ-BRS-12), along with several other anomalous values.

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e. Associated base-metal anomalies were also recorded, including Cu up to 780 ppm, Pb up to 320 ppm and Zn up to 260 ppm.
f. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed G-3 stage exploration to assess copper, lead, zinc, gold and associated mineralisation through detailed geological mapping at 1:4000 scale, surface geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory scout drilling for resource assessment under the UNFC 333 category.
g. The committee reviewed the proposal and did not recommend, as the western part of the proposed block overlaps with a GSI G-3 stage exploration block for gold and copper investigated during FS 2021–22, while the remaining area does not indicate sufficient mineral potential based on the available data.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | The proposed Rajpur block has 100% overlap with GSI investigations for gold and associated sulphide mineralisation (FS 2019–20), regional mineral targeting (FS 2021–23), and gold mineralisation and associated metals (FS 2001–03), and approximately 30% overlap with GSI's gold and associated base-metal exploration (FS 2021–22). |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has carried out G-4 reconnaissance for uranium, but no significant surface radioactive zones were delineated. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | NA |
| 5. | NMEDT | The proposed block overlaps with GSI's gold and associated base-metal exploration block (FS 2021–22). No overlap with ESZ, ESA, tiger reserve or wildlife corridor is reported. Recorded forest is present, and no NMEDT-funded blocks overlap with the proposed block. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not recommend the proposal, as the western part of the proposed block overlaps with a GSI G-3 stage exploration block for gold and copper investigated during FS 2021–22, while the remaining area lacks sufficient mineral potential based on the available data.***

**Agenda 106.2.23. Preliminary Exploration for Gold & Associated minerals in Tuba Block (3.75 Sq.Km.), Jashpur district, Chhattisgarh State.**
**(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/CT/P/26-27/283)**
**[Implementing Agency: Bhushilp Mines & Minerals Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64N/14 and comprises metagabbro intruded by quartz-tourmaline veins, with intense shearing and hydrothermal alteration, including chloritisation and propylitisation.
b. GSI investigations in the Barjor area during FS 2018–19 reported gold values up to 11 ppm in bedrock samples from quartz-tourmaline veins, with associated Cu, Pb and Ag values of up to 1.12%, 0.27% and 8 ppm, respectively. Gold grains were also recovered from stream-sediment and soil samples.

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c. During FS 2021–22, GSI identified two parallel auriferous zones in the Pharsabahar–Tuba area, including a zone approximately 5 m wide and 250 m long. Trench/channel samples yielded gold values up to 0.51 ppm, while bedrock samples recorded values up to 36.68 ppm Au.
d. The committee observed that, despite encouraging gold values reported by GSI, scout drilling could not be undertaken due to local agitation.
e. The DMG representative informed the committee that law-and-order issues in Jashpur district had affected exploration projects of GSI and MECL, and suggested obtaining an NOC from the local administration.
f. The committee reviewed the proposal and accorded in-principle approval. The committee further advised the agency to conduct a field visit, assess the ground situation, consult DMG, Chhattisgarh, obtain the required NOC from the local administration, and submit a Detailed Project Report (DPR) along with the necessary documents.
g. The in-principle approval is subject to required NOC from local administration.

| Sl. No. | Agency | Brief Comments |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | GSI | GSI investigations for gold (Au) and associated mineralisation were carried out during FS 1982–83(>100%) 1992–93 (~30%) and 2021–22(100%). The available data should be reviewed to identify unexplored potential and plan further G3-stage exploration. |
| 2. | MECL | The proposed block has no overlap with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL. |
| 3. | AMD | AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration for uranium in and around the proposed block, with grab samples recording up to 0.050% $U_3O_8$. In view of known potentiality for uranium in the contiguous area, analysis of uranium may be included in the list of elements to be analysed. |
| 4. | State DMG/DGM/CGM | Representative present in meeting confirmed that there is no overlapping with DGM projects. It was also informed that due to intense local agitation, the area is difficult to explore and even the auctionable blocks are annulled because of this issue. |
| 5. | NMEDT | Recorded forest is present, and no NMEDT-funded blocks overlap with the proposed block. |

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee accorded in-principle approval for the project in view of the encouraging gold values, subject to the agency obtaining a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the local administration for smooth execution of the exploration work.***

***The agency may submit DPR within 2 months.***

### 106.4: Review of Ongoing Procurement Project

**Agenda 106.4.1. Proposal for procurement of equipment through NMET fund for capacity augmentation in MECL.**

**[Implementing Agency: MECL]**

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a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 33rd EC meeting held on 19.02.2024. The sanction order was issued on 1st March 2024 for a scheduled timeline of 12 months (upto 28.02.2025) with an approved cost of ₹3,244.87/- lakh.
b. The cost of project was revised to 4,662.21 lakhs by EC in its 41st meeting. The timeline was extended upto 30.09.2026 in 42nd EC meeting.
c. MECL informed that three of the four instruments – the LIBS Core Scanner, the Gamma Ray Spectrometer and the WD-XRF – have completed procurement, installation, commissioning and training, and that only the Hyperspectral Core Scanner with XRF remains under commissioning and acceptance.
d. MECL informed that installation and commissioning commenced in August 2026; however, the supplier-committed live end-to-end demonstration by 31.08.2026 and the revised completion deadline of 20.09.2026 could not be achieved despite continued on-site and remote support.
e. As of October 2026, the instrument remained under trial operation, with the bus at the fabrication unit for pending vehicle-related work. Commissioning, the live end-to-end demonstration and formal acceptance remain pending.
f. MECL informed that delays in delivery and acceptance arose due to external delivery constraints and supplier-side commissioning issues. The extension is sought only for completion and formal acceptance, without any change in the approved scope.
g. MECL informed that the pending bus fabrication and readiness checks would be completed by the end of October 2026, followed by supplier rectification, trial run and validation on a representative core by mid-November 2026.
h. The live end-to-end demonstration, formal acceptance and submission of closure status are planned to be completed by 30.11.2026. MECL sought an extension of timeline upto 30.11.2026.
i. The Committee reviewed the procurement status and noted that three of the four instruments have been commissioned, while the Hyperspectral Core Scanner with XRF, received at MECL, remains under trial and commissioning.
j. The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee recommended extension of timeline from 30.09.2026 to 30.11.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The extension is recommended for completion of procurement.***

## 106.5: Review of Ongoing Exploration Project

### Agenda 106.5.1. General Exploration (G-2) for Graphite and Associated Minerals in Nagapuzha-Vadakhol Block, District: Ernakulam, Kerala.

**[Implementing Agency: MECL]**

a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The sanction order was issued on 24th February, 2026 with timeline of 12 months (up to 23.02.2027) and approved cost was INR 3,93,08,208/-.

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b. The agency informed the Committee that exploration work has been halted due to local agitation, as the local community is not permitting the movement of outside drilling personnel.
c. In view of the prevailing situation, the agency sought permission to undertake outsourced drilling in place of in-house drilling by engaging local drilling agencies.
d. The committee was apprised that the issue was previously discussed in 100th meeting of TCC-I and committee have recommended outsourcing of drilling.
e. However, PSC in its 11th meeting has not approved outsourced drilling. PSC has further instructed that such changes of component from outsourced to in-house or vice versa should be avoided.
f. In view of the above, the committee did not approve outsourcing of drilling.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee did not approve outsourcing of drilling.***

**Agenda 106.5.2. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone Patharia in Block, Districts: Sagar and Damoh, Madhya Pradesh.**

**[Implementing Agency: Unised Research Consultants Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The agency informed that the project was approved in the 9th PSC Meeting held on 3rd June, 2026. The sanction order was issued on 17th June, 2026 with timeline of 12 months (up to 16.04.2027) and approved cost was INR 13,234,773/-.
b. The agency presented the progress of work and apprised the committee that geological mapping of 7 sq. km completed against target of 15.2 sq. km. 180 pits against approved 180 pits have been excavated, and 28 samples have been collected and analysed by XRF.
c. The agency presented XRF results for 28 samples (24 bedrock/outcrop and 4 pit samples), showing CaO values of 1.2–48.2% and $SiO_2$ values of 9.9–91.8%. Samples containing 36–48% CaO were identified as potential cement/SMS-grade limestone, supported by compositional plots of $SiO_2$, MgO, $Al_2O_3$ and LOI against CaO.
d. The agency proposed 20 boreholes distributed across the block to assess the subsurface continuity and extent of the limestone deposit.
e. The committee observed that geological mapping remained incomplete and analytical results of trench samples were awaited.
f. The committee advised the agency to complete the mapping work and present the drilling plan in the next review after receipt of the sample analytical results.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee advised the agency to complete the geological mapping and submit the drilling plan in the next review, after receipt of the analytical results of trench samples.***

**Agenda 106.5.3. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Barpat Block, Balrampur Ramanujganj District, Chhattisgarh.**

**[Implementing Agency: DGM Chhattisgarh]**

a. DGM, Chhattisgarh informed that the project was approved in the 38th EC meeting held on 29.11.2024. The sanction order was issued on 13.12.2024 with timeline of 12 months (up to 12.12.2025) and approved cost was INR 1,36,83,526/-. Timeline was extended upto 30.09.2026 in the 11th meeting of PSC.

b. The project was earlier reviewed in 100th meeting of TCC-I. It was informed that work was delayed due to intense local agitation.
c. DGM, Chhattisgarh reported completion of geological mapping over 1.34 sq. km and topographical survey over 2.43 sq. km. Drilling of 507.90 m in 37 boreholes was completed, with 34 surface samples and 266 core samples collected and analysed.
d. The agency further informed that GR has been prepared with some analytical results pending. The block has an estimated resource of 3.548 million tonnes of laterite-hosted bauxite, including 1.037 Mt of Category I, 0.835 Mt of Category II and 1.676 Mt of Category III. Average $V_2O_5$ content is approximately 0.20%, with average bauxite and overburden thicknesses of 1.78 m and 3.73 m, respectively.
e. The agency sought timeline extension upto 30.11.2026 for submission of GR.
f. The committee reviewed the progress of work and agreed for timeline extension. The committee also suggested to submit the GR for peer review.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee recommended extension of timeline from 30.09.2026 to 30.11.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The extension is recommended for submission of GR.***

**Agenda 106.5.4. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Andhariyanes Block, (3.27 sq. km.), Upleta Taluka, Rajkot District, Gujarat.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited]**

a. The agency informed that the project was approved in the 8th PSC meeting held on 30.04.2026. The sanction order was issued on 11.05.2026 with timeline of 10 months (up to 10.03.2027) and approved cost was INR 60,08,710/-.
b. The agency apprised the committee that geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale has been completed over the entire 3.27 sq. km area and 30 out of 30 targeted bedrock samples have been collected and chemically analysed.
c. The agency apprised the committee that chemical analysis of 30 bedrock samples revealed CaO values ranging from 47.13% to 53.50% (mean 50.74%), with average $Al_2O_3$ and $SiO_2$ contents of 1.24% and 5.12%, respectively, indicating high-purity limestone across the sampled outcrops.
d. The agency presented the proposed drilling plan comprising 6 boreholes on a 400 × 400 m grid, designed considering the valley-cum-outcrop pattern, with 150 m of drilling planned for the next phase of sub-surface exploration, followed by core sampling and analysis, data synthesis and interpretation, and preparation of the final Geological Report.
e. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and noted that the results obtained were encouraging. The Committee also reviewed the proposed borehole plan with a 400 m × 400 m grid and recommended that drilling be completed as per the proposed plan and the approved quantum of drilling.
f. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and noted that the results obtained were encouraging. The Committee also reviewed the proposed borehole plan with a 400 m × 400 m grid and recommended that drilling be completed as per the proposed plan and the approved quantum of drilling

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**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee approved the drilling plan on 400 x 400 m grid pattern as presented by agency.***

**Agenda 106.5.5. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Pransla Block, (6.52 sq. km.), Upleta Taluka, Rajkot District, Gujarat.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited]**

a. The agency informed that the project was approved in the 8th PSC meeting held on 30.04.2026. The sanction order was issued on 11.05.2026 with timeline of 10 months (up to 10.03.2027) and approved cost was INR 88,98,974/-.
b. The agency apprised the committee that geological mapping at 1:4,000 scale has been completed over the entire 6.52 sq. km area and 28 out of 30 targeted bedrock samples have been collected and chemically analysed.
c. The agency apprised the committee that chemical analysis of 28 bedrock samples revealed CaO values ranging from 46.85% to 52.74% (mean 50.30%), with average $Al_2O_3$ and $SiO_2$ contents of 1.16% and 5.21%, respectively, indicating high-purity limestone across the sampled outcrops.
d. The agency presented the proposed drilling plan comprising 11 boreholes on a 400 × 400 m grid, designed considering the valley-cum-outcrop pattern, with 275 m of drilling planned for the next phase of sub-surface exploration, followed by core sampling and analysis, data synthesis and interpretation, and preparation of the final Geological Report.
e. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and noted that the results obtained were encouraging. The Committee also reviewed the proposed borehole plan with a 400 m × 400 m grid and recommended that drilling be completed as per the proposed plan and the approved quantum of drilling.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The committee approved the drilling plan on 400 x 400 m grid pattern as presented by agency.***

**Agenda 106.5.6. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for aluminous laterite and associated critical minerals in Govindagude & Sudigudde block, Udupi District, Karnataka.**

**[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]**

a. The agency informed that the project was approved during 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 6 months (up to 09.08.2025) and approved cost was INR 44,24,191/-.
b. Timeline extension upto 31.10.2025, 31.01.2026, 31.03.2026, 31.07.2026 and 31.10.2026 was approved during 79th TCC-1, 3rd PSC, 5th PSC, 8th PSC and 11th PSC meetings respectively.
c. The agency apprised the Committee that core drilling commenced on 15.09.2026 against the approved plan of 7 boreholes totalling 85 m (6 boreholes of 10 m each and 1 borehole of 25 m).
d. Boreholes GG/BH-05 and GG/BH-06 were completed at 10 m each, intersecting aluminous laterite, while GG/BH-07 was closed at 15 m after intersecting 13 m of

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aluminous laterite followed by metamorphic gneiss. Drilling in GG/BH-04 is in progress, while GG/BH-01, BH-02 and BH-03 remain to be taken up.

e. The agency apprised the Committee that the metamorphic basement is expected at approximately 32 m RRL elevation across the block.
f. The agency indicated that approximately 229 m of drilling would be required across the 7 boreholes, against the originally allocated 85 m, necessitating an additional 144 m. If an 8th borehole of approximately 40 m is included between GG/BH-05 and GG/BH-06, the additional drilling requirement would increase to approximately 184 m.
g. The agency also sought extension of timeline upto 31.01.2027 for completion of drilling and related analyses and submission of report.
h. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and directed Critical Mineral Trackers to present the analytical results at the next TCC meeting. The requirement for additional drilling shall be considered thereafter.
i. The Committee directed that the agency's request for timeline extension (TLE) be considered at the next TCC meeting upon presentation of the analytical results.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee directed the agency to present the analytical results at the next TCC meeting, after which the proposals for additional drilling and timeline extension (TLE) shall be considered.***

**Agenda 106.5.7. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for Basemetals in Burogaon-Biltala-Mogan area, Lalitpur district, Uttar Pradesh.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The agency informed that the project was approved during 40th EC Meeting held on 21st February, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th March, 2025 with timeline of 14 months (up to 09.05.2026) and approved cost was INR 3,17,51,562/-.
b. The cost of project was revised to INR 3,25,19,329/- during 7th meeting of PSC. Timeline extension upto 31.10.2026 was also approved during 7th PSC meeting.
c. The agency apprised the committee that the Bedrock/channel sample analysis recorded values up to 1,158 ppm Cu, 36 ppm Mo and 96 ppm Sn along a ~2 km mineralised quartz reef associated with a lineament extending over 12 km. Additional trenching have also established quartz-vein widths of approximately 30–115 m, with trench sample assays up to 930 ppm Cu.
d. The agency apprised the Committee that BH-01 intersected a high-magnetic, potassic-alteration zone with assays up to 5,294 ppm Cu, 1.1% Zn, 14 ppm Ag and 19 ppm Mo, along with additional Cu-Sn anomalous intercepts.
e. The agency reported that BH-02 confirmed sericitic alteration and fergusonite (Nb-Y mineral) in pegmatitic granite. The magma-mingling zone exhibited elevated Te, Cr, V, Sn, Cu, Ag and Cs values, indicating potential for Cu-Co-Au-Te and Sn-Cs-Ag mineralisation. Specks of pyrite and chalcopyrite are also observed.
f. The agency requested extension of the project timeline from 31.10.2026 to 31.01.2027 to complete the balance drilling and analysis.
g. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and noted that complete analytical results for any borehole were not available. The agency was directed to present the complete exploration data, along with analytical results for at least one completed borehole, based

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on closely spaced sampling, at the next TCC meeting, till then decision on extension of timeline is kept on hold.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee deferred consideration of the timeline extension request and directed the agency to present complete exploration data, including analytical results of at least one completed borehole based on closely spaced sampling, at the next TCC meeting.***

**Agenda 106.5.8. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Bara Khurd Block, District: Maihar, Madhya Pradesh.**

**[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

a. The agency informed that the project was approved in the 8th PSC meeting held on 30.04.2026. The sanction order was issued on 11.05.2026 with timeline of 10 months (up to 10.03.2027) and approved cost was INR 77,80,587/-.
b. The agency informed the committee that LSM (1:4,000) over 2.07 sq. km, surface pitting (20 cu. m), DGPS survey (33/33 stations) and topographic survey (2.07/2.07 sq. km) were completed as per targets.
c. Against the target of 10 bedrock samples (BRS), 9 were collected, along with 7 PT samples. Sub-surface drilling (250 m across 5 boreholes) and collection/analysis of 200 core samples were yet to be taken up.
d. The agency apprised the Committee that pit samples (BK/PTS/2) yielded CaO values of 46.7–47.7% and $SiO_2$ values of 9.1–10.3%.
e. Composite sample analysis recorded 50.17% CaO and 5.07% $SiO_2$, indicating good-quality limestone.
f. The agency proposed drilling 5 boreholes of 50 m each, totalling 250 m, at 800 m and closer spacing, in accordance with Schedule II of the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015, applicable to areas exceeding 100 ha.
g. The Committee reviewed the progress and directed that the borehole locations be finalised taking into account the buffer zone, with 800 m spacing on both sides, approved 2 of the proposed boreholes (BH-2 and BH-3) for the present, and directed that the remaining boreholes be discussed and decided later.

**Recommendations of TCC-1:**

***The Committee approved BH-2 and BH-3 for the present and directed the agency to finalise borehole locations considering the buffer zone and 800 m spacing on both sides. The remaining boreholes shall be considered subsequently.***

**Annexure- 4**

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**List of participants who attended the 106th Meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committee-I (TCC-I) of NMEDT held on 5th, 6th & 7th October, 2026 through video conferencing mode**

| S.no | Name | Designation | Email ID | Contact No | Organization |
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| 11 | Representatives from DGM Chhattisgarh | | | | |
| 12 | Representatives from MECL | | | | |
| 13 | Representatives from M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd. | | | | |
| 14 | Representatives from M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd | | | | |
| 15 | Representatives from M/s Geo Exploration and Mining Solution | | | | |
| 16 | Representatives from M/s Novomine India Private Limited | | | | |
| 17 | Representatives from BMRC Geomining Solutions | | | | |
| 18 | Representatives from NRD TATA | | | | |
| 19 | Representatives from Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd. | | | | |
| 20 | Representatives from M/s Geo Consultants Private Limited | | | | |
| 21 | Representatives from M/s. Sathi Planners Private Limited | | | | |
| 22 | Representatives from Critical Mineral Trackers | | | | |
| 23 | Representatives from Bhushilp Mines & Minerals Pvt. Ltd. | | | | |
| 24 | Representatives from Envirogreen Consultants India Pvt. Ltd. | | | | |
| 25 | Representatives from S&S Geological consultant | | | | |
| 26 | Representatives from M/s Wattfin Ventures Private Limited | | | | |
| 27 | Representatives from M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited | | | | |
| 28 | Representatives from M/s Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited | | | | |
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