Only through e-mail

भारत सरकार
खान मंत्रालय
राष्ट्रीय खनिज खोज न्यास

सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F.No.6/2/2015-NMET/ 258 New Delhi, 13th August, 2024

Subject: Circulation of minutes of 36th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 29th July, 2024

Please find enclosed herewith the minutes of 36th meeting of Executive Committee of NMET held on 29th July, 2024 for your kind perusal.

Action Taken Report on relevant Paras may kindly be forwarded to this office.

Encl: As above

[Geetika Sharma]
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET

To,

1. The Secretary, Dept. of Atomic Energy, Anushakti Bhawan, C.S.M. Marg, Mumbai- 400001.
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
4. The Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
5. The Director General, Geological Survey of India, 27, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700016.
6. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, 2nd Floor, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.
7. The Principal Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Mantralaya, Vallabh Bhawan, Bhopal- 462004.
8. The Principal Secretary, Industries, Energy and Labour Dept., Govt. of Maharashtra, 114 Annex Building Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400032.

NMET Secretariat
F-114, Shastri Bhawan, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110001
Tel: (011)-23071006, email: nmet-mines@gov.in
https://nmet.gov.in/

9. The Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Mines and Petroleum, Government of Rajasthan, Main Building Secretariat, Jaipur-305005.
10. The Additional Chief Secretary, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Dept., Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Industries Department Secretariat, Chennai- 600009.
11. Shri Alok Sharma, (Retd.) GM & HoD (Exploration), CMPDIL, 402, Lake Garden, Kanke Road, Ranchi- 834008.
12. Shri Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Business Development & Planning) (Retd.), MECL, 109, KT Nagar, Katol Road, Nagpur- 440013.
13. Dr. Yamuna Singh, Scientist-H, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (Retd.), Flat G-7, Block G, Rainbow Vistas Rock Garden, Opp- IDL, Green Hills Road, Sanathnagar PO, Moosapet, Hyderabad- 500018.
14. Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat, Dy. Director General (Retd.), Geological Survey of India, 695 Shanti Nagar (Road No-3), Near Durgapura Railway Station, Durgapura, Jaipur- 302018.
15. Dr. Sahendra Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Geology, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad- 826004.

Copy to:

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology and Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Minerals, Government of Assam.
4. The Principal Secretary-cum-Mines Commissioner, Government of Bihar.
5. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
6. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry and Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries and Commerce), Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines and Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries and Commerce), Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining and Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel and Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology, Government of Punjab.
19. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
20. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
21. The Principal Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines and Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce and Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.
27. The Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura.
28. The Secretary, Commerce and Industries, Government of Mizoram.
29. The Secretary, Textiles, Commerce and Industry, Government of Manipur.
30. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana.

Copy to:

1. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Assam.
4. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Bihar.
5. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Chhattisgarh.
6. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Gujarat.
8. The Director, Department of Industries, Government of Himachal Pradesh.

9. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

10. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand.

11. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka.

12. The Director, Directorate of Mining and Geology, Government of Kerala.

13. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

14. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra.

15. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya.

16. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.

17. The Director, Directorate of Geology, Government of Odisha.

18. The Director, Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of Punjab.

19. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan.

20. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu.

21. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana.

22. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttar Pradesh.

23. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Government of Uttarakhand.

24. The Director, Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of West Bengal.

25. The Director, Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Union Territory of Ladakh.

26. The Director, Department of Mines, Minerals and Geology, Government of Sikkim

27. The Director, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura

28. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mineral Resource, Government of Mizoram.

29. The Director, Department of Trade, Commerce and Industries, Government of Manipur.

30. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana.

Copy to:

1. Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General and Chairman, TCC-NMET, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bangaluru 560111
2. The Director, AMD, Department of Atomic Energy, AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016.

3. The Managing Director, MECL, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur-440006.
4. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, CMPDIL, Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834031.
5. The Dy. Director General, RSAS, GSI, Vasudha Bhavan, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru-560078.
6. Dy. Director General, STSS, Geological Survey of India, 27, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700016.
7. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, KIOCL Ltd, Block-II, Koramangala, Sarjapura Road, Bangaluru, Karnataka-560034.
8. The Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation, OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751 001.
9. Dy. General Manager (Mining), FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited, Mangu Singh Rajvi Marg, Paota "B" Road, Jodhpur (Rajasthan).
10. Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Pvt. Ltd., Bhaskar Tower, Temple Road, Near MLA Hostel, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001(Maharashtra) India
11. Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., 3rd Floor Floor, Anaya Chambers, GN 38/5, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata, West Bengal
12. The Managing Director, Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd., 21, CLM Lane, Raniganj, Dist: Burdwan, West Bengal, India Pin: 713347.
13. M/s United Exploration India Pvt Ltd, Unit 402, Axis mall, CF Block(Newtown), Action Area 1C, Newtown, Kolkata, New Town, West Bengal 700156
14. GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd., WeWork-Next to Forum Mall, Prestige Cube, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560034, Karnataka, India
15. Metal-IV, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary/PPS to AS(SL)/PS to JS&FA/PPS to JS, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
2. The Director and Member Secretary, TCC-NMET, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru 560111

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

Minutes of the 36th Executive Committee (EC) meeting of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 29th July, 2024 at Khanij Kaksh, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

The 36th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of NMET was held under Chairmanship of Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Mines/Chairman EC on 29th July, 2024 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode. The list of participants is given in Annexure-1.

Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Addl. Secretary, Mines welcomed all the members, invitees and other participants in the meeting. Smt. Geetika Sharma, Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET presented the agenda points for the meeting. The details of agenda points discussed and decisions taken in the meeting are given below:

Agenda 36.1: Approval of minutes of 35th Meeting of EC held on 16th May, 2024.

The minutes of the 35th EC meeting were circulated on 29th May, 2024. No comments were received from the members.

Decision of EC: EC approved the minutes of the 35th Executive Committee (EC) meeting of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET).

Agenda 36.2: Action Taken Report (ATR) on minutes of 35th EC meeting.

The EC was briefed on the action taken on the decisions taken during the 35th EC meeting. Out of 12 actionable points, action on 09 points has been completed, while action on 02 points (additional agenda points) is in progress. As regards the issue related to providing geologists on deputation from GSI to the DMG, Karnataka, the house was informed that no request has been received from DMG, Karnataka.

The house was apprised that the matter related to funding of offshore mineral exploration projects is submitted to Department of Legal Affairs (DoLA) for their opinion. Further, the organization of national level workshop on exploration license regime is in progress.

Decision of EC: Chairman, EC directed to organize the workshop on Exploration License scheme at the earliest.

EC accepted the Action Taken Report on the minutes of 35th EC meeting.

Agenda 36.3: Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey in Blocks 13, 18 and 21 by GSI in the adjoining areas of Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) Blocks 1 to 12.

It was informed that the TCC at its 65th meeting held on 28th, 30th and 31st May 2024 has recommended NAGMP work in block no. 13, 18 and 21 (adjoining areas of OGP block 1-12) with project duration of 36 months for an amount of **₹1,018,989,058/-** (One billion eighteen million nine hundred eighty-nine thousand fifty-eight rupees only) inclusive of 18% GST from the date of signing of MoA with the selected bidder. GSI has to follow the due process for engagement of Project Implementation Agencies (PIAs) to carry out Aero-geophysical Surveys as per GFRs.

Shri. Debkumar Bhattacharya, Dy. Director General & HoD RSAS, GSI provided the detailed status of NAGMP work executed by GSI in various blocks.

Decision of EC: EC accorded financial sanction for **₹1,018,989,058/-** (One billion eighteen million nine hundred eighty-nine thousand fifty-eight rupees only) inclusive of 18% GST to carry out NAGMP work in block no. 13,18 and 21 in the adjoining areas of OGP blocks 1 to 12 with timeline of 36 months from the date of signing of MoA, subject to administrative approval and compliance with codal formalities.

[Action: GSI]

Agenda 36.4: Procurement of four Electron Probe Micro Analyzers (EPMA) by Geological Survey of India.

GSI had submitted a proposal for procurement of four (04 nos.) of EPMA instruments in the month of April 2024. The proposal was put up for approval of EC in its 35th EC meeting. The proposal was referred back to TCC for review, in view of the significant difference between the proposed and revised price of the EPMA instrument.

Accordingly, TCC at its 65th meeting held on 28th, 30th and 31st May 2024 reviewed the proposal & recommended it at an estimated cost of **₹62,39,52,000/-** (Sixty two crores thirty nine lakhs fifty two thousand rupees only) inclusive of all taxes with five years' post-installation warranty and five years' CAMC post-warranty with a timeline of 24 months for procurement.

(The above cost is calculated based on the Dollar to INR conversion rate (1 USD = ₹84) as on 30.05.2024 with DDP Calculated based on the Current IGST and Custom Duty provided by current situation. Any changes in the Government policy will affect the pricing. Therefore, the final cost may vary as per actual rate of dollar at time of payment).

Shri. Asit Saha, DG, GSI apprised EC about the purpose and requirement of the instrument and the details of utilization of the existing EPMA instruments.

Decision of EC: (i) EC approved the proposal of procurement of 4 EPMA instruments amounting to **₹62,39,52,000/-** (Sixty two crore thirty nine lakh fifty two thousand rupees only) inclusive of all taxes with five years' post-installation warranty and five years' CAMC post-warranty with a timeline of 24 months for procurement.

ii) Chairman EC instructed GSI to prepare an inventory of their high end equipment and formulate a policy within a month, in line with the policy of DST, so that the laboratory facilities of GSI may be used by academic institutions/other agencies in the exploration arena.

(iii) Additional Secretary, Mines/Member Secretary, NMET advised DG, GSI to expedite the procurement process.

[Action: GSI]

Agenda 36.5: Approval of Annual Report of NMET for FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24.

DS and HoD, NMET apprised the house about the Annual Report of NMET for F.Y. 2022-23 and FY 2023-24. The report contains the details of activities carried out by NMET during FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24.

Decision of EC: EC accorded ex-post facto approval for the Annual report of NMET for FY 2022-23 and approved the Annual report of NMET for FY 2023-24. Chairman, EC advised that henceforth the Annual Report of NMET be prepared and circulated timely.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.6: Ratification of expenditure incurred on organizing Training-cum-Workshop on "Use of NGDR portal and Advanced Techniques of exploration for the Critical and Strategic Minerals."

It was informed that a Training-cum-Workshop on "Use of NGDR portal and Advance Techniques of exploration for the Critical and Strategic Minerals" was organized by NMET at GSITI, Hyderabad from 22nd April to 25th April, 2024 with the objective to focus on application of NGDR portal in identifying mineral potential areas for preparing quality exploration proposals. An expenditure of **₹4,62,870/-** (Four lakh

sixty two thousand eight hundred seventy rupees only) was incurred for making payment to vendors towards hiring of services for organizing the workshop after obtaining financial sanction from Secretary, Mines with financial concurrence of JS & FA Mines.

Decision of EC: EC ratified the expenditure of **₹4,62,870/-** (Four lakh sixty two thousand eight hundred seventy rupees only) incurred for organizing the workshop.

Agenda 36.7: Modification in Schedule of Charges (SoC) of NMET for Applicability of SoC in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Most Affected Districts.

DS and HoD, NMET apprised that DGM, Chhattisgarh at 35th Executive Committee meeting of NMET held on 16th May, 2024 had requested Chairman, EC for providing special incentive to boost mineral exploration activities in the LWE affected districts, since exploration agencies are facing hardship in executing field work in these areas. As per the directives of Chairman, EC a request from DGM, Chhattisgarh was received vide email dt. 24th May, 2024 in this regard.

Further, she informed that MHA has identified 38 districts as LWE affected areas and 12 districts as "Most Affected Districts" by LWE vide F. No. II-18015/68/2014-LWE-III dt. 11th March, 2024. The most affected districts by LWE are:

S. No.	State	No. of Districts	Districts
1	Chhattisgarh	07	Bastar, Bijapur, Sukma, Kanker, Narayanpur, Dantewada, Mohalla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki
2	Jharkhand	01	West Singhbhum
3	Madhya Pradesh	01	Balaghat
4	Maharashtra	01	Gadchiroli
5	Odisha	02	Kalahandi, Kandhamal
Total		**12**	

To facilitate the exploration agencies in carrying out exploration work in Most Affected LWE districts, provision is made in SoC of NMET to provide 1.25 times of the normal SoC rates for carrying out field component of exploration work in these districts to the exploration agencies. Para 5 of SoC is also modified as "3.35 times of SoC rates

for carrying out field component of exploration work" from "3.35 times of SoC rates for carrying out exploration work" with the approval of Secretary Mines/Chairman EC.

Decision of EC: EC ratified the proposal of modification of Para 5 and addition of Para 5A in Schedule of Charges (SoC) of NMET. The OM is enclosed at Annexure-2.

Agenda 36.8 Extension of contract of TS-QC Consultant and releasing of remaining 25% payment of completed three work components for Heliborne Survey project by GSI.

GSI, in July 2018 had submitted the proposal to NMET for "Engaging a consultant for interpretation of its existing airborne legacy data and data acquired by Govt. of Odisha for follow-up Heliborne Geophysical Survey by GSI."

Financial sanction for the project, "Interpretation of legacy data and TS-QC consultancy" with four work components was approved in 9th EC meeting held on 8th August, 2018 with an estimated cost of Rs. 3,37,90,251/-.

Further, EC in its 22nd meeting held in 22nd December, 2021 approved time extension for the project without cost overrun for 31 months [from May, 2020 to November, 2022] and correction in the figure of TS-QC from 55,000 line km to 50,000-line km at cost of ₹1.55 Cr.

Further, at its 28th meeting held on 16th March 2023, EC approved change in target from 50,000 LKM to 24,595 LKM and provided timeline extension for the project contract of TS-QC for 18 months up to 31st May, 2024 without any cost implications.

During 66th TCC meeting, GSI informed that TS-QC agency, namely M/s IDPeX Pvt. Ltd., India has completed first three components and agreed to provide services for TS-QC work (4th component) after the release of balance 25% of the payment pertaining to the first three components. Further, GSI informed that the PIA will commence the heliborne TDEM survey during the first week of October; 2024 which will be completed on 31.12.2025. Hence, TS-QC Consultant requires timeline extension upto 28th February 2026 to complete the work assigned under 4th component.

The details of work components are as under:

S. No.	Work Component	Amount in Rs.	Amount paid to the consultant (75%) in Rs.	Remaining amount (25%) in Rs.	Date of Completion
1	Interpretation of Legacy Data	1,16,65,251/-	87,48,938/-	29,16,313/-	23.12.2019
2	Preparation of Detailed Project Report	20,06,000/-	15,04,500/-	5,01,500/-	24.01.2020
3	Tender Management	18,29,000/-	13,71,750/-	4,57,250/-	16.08.2023
Total		**1,55,00,251/-**	**1,16,25,188/-**	**38,75,063/-**	
4	Technical Supervision & Quality Control	89,96,851/-	Payment will be made as per milestone achievement of revised target.		Not yet initiated.

Shri Debkumar Bhattacharya, Dy. Director General & HoD RSAS, GSI informed that the PIA was engaged to carry out four work components of which the first three components have been completed. The fourth component, i.e. TS-QC of Heliborne survey could not be started due to delay in PIAs work. So far the TS-QC agency has been paid 75% of the contracted amount pertaining to the three completed components. He informed that the agency has requested to release payment for the balance 25% pertaining to the completed three components.

Considering the above, GSI has sought approval of EC for the following two points and accordingly the amendment will be made in the MoA of TS-QC Consultant of Heliborne Survey:

i. Release of 25% of balance payment amounting to ₹38,75,063/- for the completed work components i.e. a) Interpretation of Legacy data, b) Preparation of detailed project report and c) Tender Management.
ii. Extension of timeline as requested by M/s IDPeX Private Limited may be considered from 01.06.2024 to 28.02.2026 i.e. 21 months with effect from the issue of extension order, without any cost implications, for successful completion of the project.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension of TS-QC consultant, M/s IDPeX Private Limited for 21 months i.e. 01.06.2024 to 28.02.2026 without any financial implication. As regards the payment of remaining 25% amount i.e. ₹**38,75,063/-** (Thirty

eight lakhs seventy five thousand and sixty three rupees only) for the first three work components of the work, EC was of the view that this being a contractual matter between GSI and the TS-QC consultant (M/s IDPeX Private Limited), the decision on this issue falls within the purview of DG, GSI.

[Action: NMET/ GSI]

Agenda 36.9. Additional line km covered by PIA over Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Surveys over Obvious Geological Potential areas of India in Block-6 by GSI.

Multi-sensor Aero-geophysical Survey over Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) Block-6 was approved in the 19th EC of NMET held on 26th March, 2021 for a period of 17 months at the cost of ₹39,85,74,529/-.

GSI informed that the target of 2,78,846 Line km was fixed as per MoA (covering parts of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh). Area falling in toposheet 56M/5 was excluded from the Survey due to restricted no-fly zone area declared by Ministry of Defense (MoD) vide Office Memorandum No. 20(03)/2017/D(GS-III), Ministry of Defence, New Delhi dated 20.06.2017.

However, as per the Department of Science and Technology (DST) Guidelines for acquiring and producing Geospatial Data and Geospatial Data Services including Maps (DST F. No. SM/25/02/2020 (Part-1) dated 15.02.2021), the PIA was allowed to cover 850 Sq. Km (3,117 Line Kms) which was earlier declared as No-Fly Zone. Hence GSI has sought approval for covering additional area of 3117 Line Km. in OGP Block-6 with an additional cost of US$ 60,204.8418.

GSI mentioned that the entire Block data will help in tracing the continuity of the anomalous geophysical features. Full coverage of airborne survey minimizes the risk of missing out significant anomalies or features and carrying out modelling with the continuous data set.

In view of above, the TCC at its 66th meeting recommended the proposal to cover additional 3117 Line Km. with an additional cost of US$ 60,204.8418 equivalents to **₹50,27,104/-** (Fifty lakh twenty seven thousand and one hundred four rupees only) to EC for approval, considering approximate USD to INR conversation, 1USD = ₹83.50.

Decision of EC: EC approved the additional cost and additional target in OGP Block-6 to cover 3117 Line Km. with cost of US$ 60,204.8418 equivalent to **₹50,27,104/-** (Fifty lakh twenty seven thousand one hundred four rupees only).

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.10: Approval of Proposals for Financial Assistance for procurement of Machinery/Equipment.

TCC at its 65th meeting held on 28th and 30th-31st May, 2024 had recommended the proposal of DMG, Goa for financial assistance for procurement of Machinery/Equipment amounting to **₹71.92 lakhs** (Seventy one lakh ninety two thousands rupees).

Details of the instrument are as under:

S. No.	Item	Quantity	Estimated cost Per unit (Rs in lakhs)	Total estimated cost (Rs in lakhs)
1	Handheld XRF	1	30.00	30.00
2	DGPS	1	16.00	16.00
3	Total Station	2	6.96	13.92
4	GIS Software	1	12.00	12.00 (additional cost)
	Total			71.92

Decision of EC: EC approved the proposal for procurement of equipment as mentioned in Sl. No. 1 to 3 with a cost of ₹59.92/- lakhs to DMG, Goa with a timeline of one year and additional amount of Rs. 12.00 lakhs for procurement of GIS software sanctioned to DMG, Goa vide Sanction Order no 53 dated 17.4.2024

Chairman, EC instructed to take an undertaking from DMG, Goa that they will maintain the equipment in the post warranty period. Further, in future undertaking be obtained from all the agencies in respect of procurement related projects before consideration in TCC.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.11: Approval of new exploration project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC)

TCC at its 65th meeting held on 28th and 30th-31st May, 2024 and 66th meeting held on 24th, 25th & 26th June, 2024 recommended 15 new mineral exploration proposals amounting to is **₹28.71 Cr** (Twenty eight crores seventy one lakh rupees only) for approval of EC.

Details of new project proposals approved during the EC meeting are as under:

S. No.	Project/Block Name	Commodity	Stage	Duration (Months)	Approved Cost (in ₹ Lakh Including GST)
A. Implementing Agency: MECL					
1	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Graphite in Chormunda Block (3.75 sq.km.), District- Balangir and Nuapara, Odisha.	Graphite	G3	12	259.52
2	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Graphite in Temrimal Block (4.0 sq.km.), District- Balangir and Bargarh, Odisha	Graphite	G3	12	273.71
3	Preliminary (G-3) Exploration for Iron and Bauxite Ore in Majhauli Block (3.94 sq.km.), District-Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	Iron and Bauxite Ore	G3	10	67.35
4	Preliminary (G-3) Exploration for Iron and Bauxite Ore in Amoch-Chhapra Block (4.86 sq.km.), District- Jabalpur & Katni, Madhya Pradesh	Iron and Bauxite Ore	G3	10	106.84
5	Preliminary exploration (G-3) of Tungsten and Tin ore in Murara-Devendrapura Block, District-Niwari, Madhya Pradesh	Tungsten and Tin Ore	G3	12	308.81
6	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Copper, Lead, Zinc and Associated Metals in Salaiya Phatak Block, District: Katni, Madhya Pradesh	Copper, Lead, Zinc & associated Metals	G3	12	138.61
7	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Iron and associated minerals in Chitrangi Block, Singrauli District, Madhya Pradesh	Iron & associated minerals	G4	12	196.12
				Sub Total-A	**1350.96**
B. Implementing Agency: FAGMIL					
8	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for mineral-Rock Phosphate in Randha, Jaisalmer district, Rajasthan	Rock Phosphate	G4	12	137.44
				Sub Total-B	**137.44**
C. Implementing Agency: DGM, Assam					
9	Reconnaissance (G-4) survey for limestone in Sheelveta area (25 sq.km.), Karbi Anglong district, Assam.	Limestone	G4	12	267.53
10	Reconnaissance (G-4) survey for limestone in Longplaidisa area	Limestone	G4	12	307.58

	(25 sq.km.), Dima Hasao district, Assam.				
11	Reconnaissance (G-4) survey for limestone in Dikurumetron area (20 sq.km.), Upper Deopani of Karbi Anglong district, Assam.	Limestone	G4	12	221.54
				Sub Total-C	**796.65**
D. Implementing Agency: M/s Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Pvt. Ltd.					
12	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Copper and associated Mineralization in Govindpur Block (0.83 sq.km.), Chandrapur District, Maharashtra.	Copper and associated Mineral	G3	8	126.08
				Sub Total-D	**126.08**
E. Implementing Agency: M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.					
13	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite and Vanadium in Matena-Sirar Area (60 sq.km.), Almora District, Uttarakhand	Graphite & Vanadium	G4	12	260.46
				Sub Total-E	**260.46**
F. Implementing Agency: M/s Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd.					
14	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Glauconite and associated mineralization in Dhamni-Piparwasi Simliya area, Sheopur district, Madhya Pradesh	Glauconite and associated mineralization	G4	12	106.22
				Sub Total-G	**106.22**
G. Implementing Agency: M/s United Exploration India Private Ltd.					
15	Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Lithium, Niobium, Tantalum, Titanium & REE Minerals in and around Bengpal–Ellingnar-Kumakoleng Block, Sukhma, and Bastar Districts, Chhattisgarh	Lithium, Niobium, Tantalum, Titanium & REE	G4	12	~~84.16~~ 93.38
				Sub Total-H	**93.38**
				Total A+B+C+D+E+F+G	**2871.79**

Discussions:

i. EC suggested that the States should establish a coordination mechanism to fast-track approvals and for facilitation of exploration projects in their States. Chairman, EC directed that a letter may be sent to the Chief Secretaries of States to constitute a committee comprising of Forest Secretary, Revenue Secretary and Mining Secretary headed by Chief Secretary of the State for carrying out regular review of mineral exploration projects and the mining/auction activities in State.

[Action: Mines IV]

ii. Director, MRD Madhya Pradesh informed that Govt. of Madhya Pradesh has developed a system for regular review of projects under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary (Mining) with the DMs and DFOs of various districts to review the work of coal blocks and auctionable blocks. He informed that in line with the deliberations of EC, they will include Departments of Mines and Environment as members of the committee to review the issues related to mineral exploration projects.

Chairman, EC advised MRD, Madhya Pradesh to carry out periodic review of the mineral exploration projects of GSI, MECL, NEAs and NPEAs to resolve the issues related to mineral exploration projects.

[Action: MRD, MP]

Decision of EC: EC approved the financial sanction of **₹28.71 Cr** (Twenty eight crores seventy one lakh rupees only) for the new project proposals recommended by TCC.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.12: Approval for surrendering of projects recommended by TCC.

TCC at its 65th meeting held on 28th and 30th-31st May, 2024 recommended following 03 proposals for surrendering:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Remarks
1.	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for PGE, Nickel, Chromite and associated Basemetal mineralization in Yentem-Ningthi Area, Kamjong District, Manipur State.	MECL	Delay in NOC from Ministry of Textile, Commerce & Industry, Manipur
2.	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE and Rare Metals (RM) Mineralization in Kathapullatti Block, Part of dist- Tiruppur, State- Tamil Nadu.	MECL	90% overlap with already completed NMET funded project by MECL
3.	Reconnaissance survey for manganese in Tentuliguda Block, district- Koraput, Odisha	DGM, Odisha	Law and Order issue

Decision of EC: EC approved the surrendering of projects by respective agencies.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.13: Approval of Revised/ Additional costs for ongoing projects recommended by TCC.

TCC at its 66th meeting held on 24th, 25th & 26th June, 2024 recommended the revised/ additional cost for following 03 mineral exploration projects:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Approved cost (in ₹)	Additional cost (in ₹)	Remarks
1	Preliminary Exploration (G–3 Stage) for Diamond (Phase-I) in Tikamgarh Cluster- Comprising of four sub block A to D (total area of Cluster – 109.68 sq.km), District: Tikamgarh, Madhya Pradesh	MECL	1,00,91,331	5,17,547 (0.05 Cr)	Charges for Peer Reviewer and GR Preparation
2	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Basemetal in Thal-Didihat-Askot area, Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand	Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd	1,37,46,999	49,61,317 (0.49 Cr)	Change of drilling rates from Auger to Hard Rock drilling in the cost sheet
3	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Mailar Base Metal–Gold Prospect Block in Mailar Area, Lalitpur District, Uttar Pradesh	Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd	2,40,95,250	81,43,941 (0.81 Cr)	

Decision of EC: EC approved the additional cost of the ongoing projects.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.14: Approval of Extension of timeline for ongoing projects recommended by TCC.

TCC in its 65th meeting held on 28th and 30th-31st May, 2024 and 66th meeting held on 24th, 25th & 26th June, 2024 recommended the following 20 ongoing proposals for extension of timeline for approval of EC:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Schedule date of completion	Required timeline (up to)	Remarks
1	Reconnaissance survey for manganese in Tentuliguda Block, district- Koraput, Odisha	DGM, Odisha	08.08.2020	31.07.2024 **(4 years)**	Local Agitation

2	Preliminary exploration (G3) for Manganese Hardatal block (1.38 sq. km), District: Balangir, Odisha	DGM, Odisha	30.06.2024	31.08.2024 **(2 months)**	For GR preparation
3	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) For Limestone in Voterolangsho Area Of West Karbi-Anglong And Dima Hasao District, Assam	DGM, Assam	30.04.2024	31.07.2024 **(3 months)**	For GR preparation
4	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Graphite and Sulphide in Ganacharpura Block (33.60 Sq. Km), Kolar District, Karnataka	MECL	31.05.2024	31.08.2024 **(3 months)**	Delay in Drilling
5	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for REE in Sarnu Block (118.10 sq.km), Barmer District: Rajasthan	MECL	30.06.2024	31.08.2024 **(2 months)**	For GR preparation
6	Reconnaissance survey (G4 stage) for Copper in Chalima Block (101.84 sq.km) in Giridih district, Jharkhand	MECL	30.04.2024	15.06.2024 **(1.5 months)**	For GR preparation
7	Reconnaissance Survey (G–4 Stage) for Tin in Pokhar–Chhaili Block (90.00 Sq. Km), Tehri Garhwal District, Uttarakhand	MECL	30.06.2024	15.08.2024 **(1.5 months)**	For GR preparation
8	Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Polymetals (Cu, Au, Ag) in Miregaon block (40.769 sq. km), Districts: Bhandara and Gondiya, Maharashtra	MECL	30.06.2024	15.08.2024 **(1.5 months)**	For GR preparation
9	Reconnaissance Survey (G–4 stage) for Manganese and Associated Minerals in Katori–Jhiriya Block (140.22 Sq. Km), District– Balaghat, Madhya Pradesh	MECL	02.04.2024	02.10.2024 **(6 months)**	Delay in Forest Clearance
10	Preliminary exploration (G3) for coal in North of Saoner (15.16 sq.km), Kamptee Coalfield, District: Nagpur, Maharashtra	CMPDIL	02.07.2024	31.07.2024 **(1 month)**	For GR submission
11	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for polymetalic mineralization (Au, Cu, Ni, Co) in Dharwar Shimoga Schist Belt of Nagavanda area Dhavangere, Haveri and Shimoga Districts,	KIOCL	30.06.2024	31.12.2024 **(6 months)**	Delay in forest clearance

	Karnataka (Block area- 63.62 sq. km)				
12	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Majhingamali block in Kashipur Tehsil, District - Rayagada, Odisha	OMC	30.06.2024	30.06.2025 **(12 months)**	Law & Order issue
13	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Keluamali block, District - Kalahandi, Odisha	OMC	31.03.2024	30.06.2025 **(15 months)**	Law & Order issue
14	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in Nawadih Block (32.04 sq.km.), District: Balrampur, State: Chhattisgarh	UEIPL	25.12.2023	31.05.2024 **(5 months)**	Delay in forest clearance
15	Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.	DGM, J&K	30.05.2024	31.05.2025 **(12 months)**	Due to Model Code of Conduct during Assembly Elections and further Lok Sabha Elections
16	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities	DMM, West Bengal	16.04.2024	15.10.2024 **(6 months)**	Lack of participation of bidders
17	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Ni–Cr–Cu, PGE, Au, REE in Mafic–Ultramafic Bodies in Hadanur Tagadur Belt, Mandya District, Karnataka	DGM Karnataka (GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.)	16.02.2024	31.08.2024 **(6.5 months)**	Local Agitation
18	Heliborne Survey (Phase-I) over 8 mineral target zones identified from interpreted Legacy Aero-geophysical data in parts of Odisha, Chhattisgarh, AP, Telangana and Karnataka.	GSI	31.07.2024	31.12.2025 **(17 months)** *(without any Cost Implications)*	Delay in obtaining permission from Govt. Agencies
19	Heliborne Time Domain Electromagnetic (TDEM) and Magnetic Survey over target mineral areas H1 and H2 as follow up surveys recommended by analysis of Aerogeophysical data over OGP Blocks 1 & 2 (Phase-I)				

20	Deep seated mineral prognosis by Geophysical Techniques: Lithospheric structure and relationship with Gold and Kimberlite clusters of Kalyandurg-Timmasamudram-Chigicherla, Ananthapur District, Andhra Pradesh.	GSI	14.07.2024	31.12.2024 **(5.5 months)**	Additional data acquisition

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension of the projects.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 36.15: Ratification of project proposals approved under S&T PRISM Scheme recommended by the APEX Committee, Metal – 4, Ministry of Mines.

The Apex Committee under S&T PRISM Scheme, Ministry of Mines, at its 2nd meeting held on 19.06.2024 had recommended 10 proposals for execution through JNARDDC from NMET funds.

The estimated cost of the projects is **₹11.26/- Cr** (Eleven crores twenty six lakh rupees only) and the 1st instalment of 40% of the approved cost amounting to ₹4.50 Cr has been released to JNARDDC on 9.7.2024**.** This step would provide a boost to respective Startups and MSMEs.

The details of the project proposals are as under:

S. No.	Project Title	Startup/ MSME Name	Project Cost (in lakhs)	Duration (in months)
1	Setting up of a 5 TPD (ton per day) CFA (Coal Fly-ash) Processing Plant to extract high-purity fumed Silica (>99.9%) and Aluminium fluoride (>98%)	Sakshi Chem Sciences Pvt Ltd, Nagpur, Maharashtra	₹200	18
2	Real-time Continuous Temperature Measurement of Cryolite Bath using Ultrasonic Waveguide Technology	XYMA Analytics Pvt Ltd, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	₹37.5	12
3	Development of Red Mud Flocculants	Kimberlite Chemicals India Private Limited, Bengaluru, Karnataka	₹200	24
4	Recycled aluminum carbon fiber composite based high pressurized vessel	Greenewelty Pvt. Ltd, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	₹148.5	24

5	Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and Neural Network (NN) software for exploration, prospecting, and appraisal of minerals and metals in the mineral and mining industries.	OGPEX Geoscience (OPC) Private Limited, Thane (W), Maharashtra	₹48	12
6	SCIN: A process to extract scandium oxide from red mud	Innocule Materials and Additives Private Limited, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	₹75	12
7	Artificial Intelligence System for Condition Based Monitoring of L1/L2/IBA data of Aluminium Plants' Equipment	Corrosion Intelligence Private Limited, New Delhi	₹156	18
8	Li(MnxFe1-x)PO4 Cathode Active Material Promising Material for future EV Application	Lohum Materials Private Limited, Delhi	₹140	24
9	Recovery of High-Grade Zinc Oxide from Zinc Ash by Hydrometallurgical Process	JAMP INDUSTRIES, Nagpur, Maharashtra	₹87	6
10	Universal electronic Detonator for sequential blasting	Relira Blastech, Itwari, Nagpur, Maharashtra	₹34.14	12

Decision of EC: EC ratified the proposal. Further, Chairman, EC directed that a letter may be written by concerned Section in the Ministry of Mines to State Governments informing them about the approved projects sanctioned under S&T PRISM scheme with the details of concerned Start-ups & MSMEs. The State Governments may also be requested to submit proposals under the scheme for R&D work in mineral exploration and beneficiation sector through Start-ups and MSMEs of their States.

[Action: Metal IV]

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

Annexure 1

S. No.	Name/ Designation	Status	Remarks
1	Sh. V.L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Chairperson, ex officio	Physical
2	Shri. Dheeraj Pande, Director, Atomic Mineral Directorate	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
3	Sh. Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines & CG, IBM	Member Secretary, ex Officio	Physical
4	Sh. Asit Saha Director General, Geological Survey of India	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
5	Vivek Kumar Bajpai, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Member	Physical
6	Smt. Aruna V. J., Joint Director, Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
7	Shri S. N. Dodiya, Additional Director, Mines and Geology, Govt. of Rajasthan	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
8	Shri Anurag Chowdhury, Director, Mineral Resource Dept., Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
9	Shri T R K Rao, DG, DGM Maharashtra	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
10	Sh. Alok Sharma, GM (Exploration) (Retd.) CMPDIL.	Technical Expert	Through VC
11	Sh. Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Business Development and Planning) (Retd.), MECL	Technical Expert	Through VC
12	Dr. Yamuna Singh, Scientist-H, Atomic Minerals Directorate (Retd.)	Technical Expert	Through VC
13	Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat, DDG (Retd.), GSI	Technical Expert	Through VC
14	Dr. Sahendra Singh, Associate Professor, IIT (ISM), Dhanbad	Technical Expert	Through VC
15	Smt Geetika Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Deputy Secretary and HoD, NMET	Physical
	INVITEES		
16	Dr. S. Ravi, DDG, GSI and Chairman TCC	Chairman, TCC	Physical
17	Shri Yogendra Sing Bhamboo, Diretor (Tech.) Ministry of Mines	Invitee	Physical
18	Shri Debkumar Bhattacharya, Dy. Director General, GSI, RSAS, Bangalore	Invitee and Representative of DG, GSI	Online
	Officers of NMET		
19	Dr. Sangeeta Gupta	Suptdg. Geologist	Physical
20	Smt. Anju C S	Suptdg. Geologist	Physical
21	Shri. Sebabrata Das	Senior Geologist	Physical
22	Dr. Rajesh Sharma	Senior Geologist	Physical

23	Shri. Ravi Dutt	Cost Accounts Officer	Physical
24	Shri. Akshay Kumar Verma	Geologist	Physical
25	Shri. Jayant Gupta	Asst. Cost Accounts Officer	Physical
26	Shri. Yogesh Agarwal	Assistant	Physical

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F. No. 6/2/2015-NMET/195 New Delhi, 08th July, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Modification in Schedule of Charges (SoC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust-reg.

Chairman, Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) has approved the following modifications in the ***"Applicability of SoC in Remote and Inaccessible Terrain Existing in North Eastern States and Highly Terrain of Himalaya Region and Most Affected Districts by Left Wing Extremism (LWE)"*** in Para 5 of the Schedule of Charges (SoC) of NMET:

Revision in Para 5

Para 5. Applicability of SoC in Remote and Inaccessible Terrain Existing in North Eastern States and Highly Terrain of Himalaya Region

Existing Para: It is well known fact that North-Eastern States of the country and inaccessible hilly terrain of Himalayan region are endowed with limited infrastructure and the working environment get worsen due to inherent adverse effect on the progress of field activities. It may cause inordinate delay resulting in incurring higher cost for executing exploration activities in these areas.

In view of the above, rates shall be 3.35 times higher than the normal SoC rates for carrying out exploration work in North Eastern States and hilly terrain of Himalaya region. This practice is also followed by the Ministry of Coal.

Revised Para: It is well known fact that North-Eastern States of the country and inaccessible hilly terrain of Himalayan region are endowed with limited infrastructure and the working environment get worsen due to inherent adverse effect on the progress of field activities. It may cause inordinate delay resulting in incurring higher cost for executing exploration activities in these areas.

In view of the above, **rates shall be 3.35 times of the normal SoC rates for carrying out field component of the exploration work** in North Eastern States and hilly terrain of Himalaya region. This practice is also followed by the Ministry of Coal.

Addition of Para 5A

Para 5A. Applicability of SoC in the Most Affected Districts by Left Wing Extremism (LWE)

A number of districts in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha etc. are affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has categorized districts affected by Left Wing Extremism vide F.No. II-18015/68/2014-LWE-III dt. 11th March, 2024. The law and order situation in the LWE affected districts had an adverse effect on smooth execution of the exploration activities.

In view of the above, 1.25 times of the normal SoC rates for carrying out field component of the exploration work in the following "Most Affected LWE Districts" shall be provided to the exploration agencies.

S. No.	State	No. of Districts	Districts
1	Chhattisgarh	07	Bastar, Bijapur, Sukma, Kanker, Narayanpur, Dantewada, Mohalla-Manpur-Ambagarh Chowki
2	Jharkhand	01	West Singhbhum
3	Madhya Pradesh	01	Balaghat
4	Maharashtra	01	Gadchiroli
5	Odisha	02	Kalahandi, Kandhamal
Total		**12**	

The list of most affected districts where higher rates be applicable will be revised from time to time.

2. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Geetika Sharma)
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET

Copy to:

1. Dr. S. Ravi, Chairman, TCC-NMET and Deputy Director General, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru
2. Sh. I.R. Kirmani, ADG (Retd.), GSI
3. Sh. Hemraj Suryavanshi, ADG (Retd.), GSI
4. Sh. K. Koteshwar Rao, Dy.D.G. (Retd.), GSI

5. Sh. S.K. Adhikari, Chief Mining Geologist, IBM, Nagpur
6. Sh. S.K. Kulshrestha, Dy.D.G. & RMH-III, GSI, Shillong
7. Sh. K.L. Mundra, Head RMRE, AMD, Hyderabad
8. Sh. Alok Kumar, Deputy Secretary (IFD), Ministry of Mines
9. Ms. Geetika Sharma, Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET, Ministry of Mines
10. Sh. Ravi Kumar Gupta, GM (Fin.), HCL, Kolkata
11. Sh. P.K. Maharana, AGM (Fin.), NALCO, Bhubaneswar
12. Ms. Vandana, CAO, RSAS, GSI, Bengaluru
13. Sh. C. Parthsarathi, Director and Member Secretary, TCC-NMET, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001
2. PPS to AS, Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001
3. Director (Tech.), Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001