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Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F.No.6/2/2015-NMET/ 70 **New Delhi, 22nd July, 2021**

Subject: Circulation of Minutes of 21st meeting of the Executive Committee of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 19th July, 2021.

Please find enclosed the minutes of 21st meeting of Executive Committee of NMET held on 19th July, 2021 for your kind perusal.

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

[Amit Saran]
Director & 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 Secretary, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Secretariat, 2nd Block, Room No.101, Amravati, Vijayawada-522238.
8. The Secretary, Mineral Resources Dept., Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan, Naya Raipur, Raipur-492001.
9. The Principal Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Mantralaya, Vallabh Bhawan, Bhopal-462004.
10. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand, Second Floor, Above SBI Building, Besides MDI Building, Project Building, Dhurva, Ranchi-834004.
11. Dr. N. P. Nathan, Retd. DDG, GSI, 151/2A, Govinda Pillai Colony, Camp Road, Selaiyur (PO), Chennai-600073.
12. Dr. Hari Shankar Pandalai, Professor, Dept. of Earth Science, IIT, Bombay, Powai, Mumbai-400076.
13. Shri P. S. Parihar, Director (Retd.) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research, Department of Atomic Energy, A202, Aashima Mall, Hoshangabad Road, Bhopal-462026.

14. Shri Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Retd.) Business Development & Planning, MECL, 109, KT Nagar, Katol Road, Nagpur-440013.
15. Shri Alok Sharma, Retd. GM & HoD (Exploration), CMPDIL, 402, Lake Garden Apartment, Opposite Gandhi Nagar, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008.

Copy to:

1. The Additional Director General and Chairman, TCC-NMET, Southern Region, GSI Complex, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad-500068.
2. The Director (Technical), Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
3. The Chairman-cum-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. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, KIOCL Ltd, Block-II, Koramangala, Sarjapura Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560034.
7. The Chairman-Cum-Managing Director, NMDC Ltd., Khanij Bhavan, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad-500028.
8. The General Manager, Telangana State Mineral Development Corporation Limited, H. No.6-2-915, HMWSSB premises, Rear Block, 3rd Floor, Khairatabad, Hyderabad.
9. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Indirawati Bhawan, Block-4, First & Second Floor Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh- 492002.
10. The GM (Exploration), OMECL, Govt. of Odisha. Odisha Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. 3rd Floor, Boyan Bhawan, Unit-3, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Bhubaneswar-751001.
11. The Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd., Paryawas Bhawan, Block 'A', IInd floor, Jail Road, Arera Hills, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh-462011.
12. The Director (Dept. of Mines & Geology), Govt. of Telangana, DRDK Building, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad-500022.
13. The Chief Executive Officer, Mineral Exploration Research and Innovation Trust (MERIT), Department of Mines & Geology, 6th Floor, B-Wing, Sri Anjaneya Towers, Ibrahimpatnam, District: Krishna-521456.
14. The Principal Secretary, Dept. of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Goa, Secretariat, Porvorim, Goa-403521.
15. The Secretary, Dept. of Industries & Commerce (MSME & Mines), Govt. of Karnataka, Room No.136, 1st floor, Vikas Soudha, Bengaluru-560001.
16. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Govt. of Maharashtra, Room No. 114, 1st floor, Industry & Labour Dept., Mantralaya Annexe Building, Mumbai-400032.
17. The Principal Secretary, Dept. of Steel & Mines, Government of Odisha, Odisha Secretariat, Bhubaneswar-751001.
18. The Principal Secretary, Dept. of Mines, Govt. of Rajasthan, Secretariat, Jaipur-302005.
19. The Principal Secretary, Dept. of Industries, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Chennai-600009.
20. The Principal Secretary (Industries & Mines), Govt. of Telangana, D-Block, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad-500022
21. The Director, AMD, Department of Atomic Energy, AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016.

22. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh, 5th and 6th Floor, D. No.7-104, B- Block, Anjaneya Tower, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada-521456.
23. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Indravati Bhavan, Block No-4, 2nd Floor, Naya Raipur-492002.
24. The Director of Mines & Geology, Government of Goa, Inst. Menezes Braganza Building, Ground Floor, Panjim, Goa-403001.
25. The Director, Department of Industries, Udyog Bhawan, Bemloe, Shimla-171001.
26. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Jammu and Kashmir, J.L. Nehru Udyog Bhawan, 4th Floor, Rail Head Complex, Jammu-80006.
27. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand, Nepal House, Doranda, Ranchi-834001.
28. The Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka, No.49, Khanij Bhawan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560001.
29. The Director, Directorate of Mining & Geology, Government of Kerala, Kesavadasapuram, Pattom Palace, Thiruvananthapuram-695004.
30. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, 29-A, Khanij Bhawan, Arera Hills, Bhopal-462004.
31. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra, Khanij Bhavan, 27, Shivaji Nagar, Cement Road, Nagpur-440010.
32. The Director, Directorate of Mines, Government of Odisha, Bhu-Bigyan Bhavan, Bhubaneswar-751001
33. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan, Khanij Bhawan, Shastri Circle, Udaipur-313101.
34. The Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Guindy, Chennai-600032.
35. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana, 8th Floor, 'D' Block, B.R.K.R. Bhavan, Tankbund, Hyderabad-500063.
36. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Government of Uttar Pradesh, 27/8 Raja Ram Mohan Roy Marg, Khanij Bhavan, Lucknow-226001.
37. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Govt. of Uttarakhand, 4 Subhash Road, Secretariat, Dehradun-248001.
38. The Director, Directorate of Mines & Minerals, Government of West Bengal, 4, Abanindranath Tagore Sarani, 2nd floor, Kolkata-700016.
39. The Director, Department of Mines, Minerals & Geology, Government of Sikkim, Secretariat Complex, Tashiling, Gangtok-737101.
40. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya, Risa Colony, Shillong-793003.
41. The Director (Geology & Mining), Directorate of Geology, Government of Nagaland, Dimapur-797112.
42. The Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation, OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001.

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001.
2. PSO to Secretary/PS to AS(SL)/PS to JS(UJ)/PS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET)

Minutes of the 21st meeting of the Executive Committee of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 19th July, 2021

The 21st meeting of the Executive Committee of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Alok Tandon, Secretary (Mines) on 19th July, 2021 in Khanij Kaksh, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi through video conference. The list of participants is given in **Annexure-1**.

2. Shri Upendra Chandra Joshi, Joint Secretary, Mines and Member Secretary, EC welcomed all the participants. He informed that in 17th EC meeting held on 05th November, 2020, it was decided that in case SFC/EFC appraisal is warranted, same should be processed by NEA's after recommendation of the project by TCC, as per laid down procedure. However, during DIB/SFC meeting held on 02.07.2021, it was decided that proposals will be first put up to EC for approval and after approval, brought before DIB, since DIB is a higher body than EC being approved by Hon'ble Minister of Mines.

Following are the agenda points discussed and decisions taken.

3. Agenda 21.1: Approval of minutes of 20th EC meeting held on 24th June, 2021

The minutes of 20th EC was circulated on 29th June, 2021 to all members of Executive Committee (EC).

Referring to Para 6 (Agenda 20.3) (point-IV) of Minutes of 20th EC Meeting, regarding REE project proposal submitted by CMPDI in Bisariya-Bansaruli-Jamtoli area, District Ranchi, Jharkhand, Dr. N. P. Nathan suggested that the project was quite promising for Rare Metal (RM) mineralization i.e. Li, Cs, Rb etc, besides REE.

Decision of EC: EC noted the suggestion and approved the minutes of the 20th EC meeting held on 24th June, 2021.

4. Agenda 21.2: Discussion on ATR of the 20th meeting of Executive Committee

The Action Taken Report on minutes of the 20th EC meeting was presented.

Decision of EC: EC accepted the action taken reports on minutes of 20th EC meeting.

5. Agenda 21.3: Approval of new project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC)

The EC was informed that TCC in its 26th and 27th meetings held on 10th & 11th December, 2020 and 7th & 8th January, 2021 respectively recommended the following projects:

S. No.	Project/Block Name	Commodity	Stage	Duration (Months)	Approved Cost (Rs. Cr.)
Implementing Agency: GSI					
1	Multi-sensor Aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 13 to 22 in adjoining Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) areas under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP).	Baseline Geoscience Data	--	36	244.00 (including 18% GST)
2	Ground Gravity–Magnetic survey under National Geophysical Mapping Programme (NGPM).	Baseline Geoscience Data	--	36	327.00 (excluding GST)
3	National Geochemical Mapping (NGCM) Outsourcing in Deccan Trap & Himalayan belt areas.	Baseline Geoscience Data	--	36	247.49 . (including 18% GST)
				Total	**818.49 Cr.**

A detailed presentation was made by GSI for all the EC members on these projects on 13th July, 2021 and the clarification of GSI on the observations/comments noted during the presentation was also circulated to all the members on 15th July, 2021.

Further, a brief presentation was made by GSI on all these projects and projects discussed as follows:

I. Ground Gravity–Magnetic survey under National Geophysical Mapping Programme (NGPM).

Dr. (Smt.) Pankajmala Bhattacharya, Director (GP) presented the project proposal details for NGPM including the work components, year wise work plan (toposheets to be taken) and estimated cost of the project before EC. The project is proposed to be outsourced through open tender.

Geological Survey of India informed that outsourced NGPM work has been carried out by NGRI, M/S Alpha Geo India Ltd., M/s IIC Technologies Consortium, Hyderabad and M/s DMT Consulting Pvt. Ltd. Kolkata. A total of 125 toposheets have been covered through outsourced agencies in last year.

EC technical expert members suggested that the toposheets should be prioritized to carry out Ground Gravity and Magnetic Survey in the block areas of already ongoing Multi Sensor Aerogeophysical Survey in OGP area (Block-1 to 12) and should be integrated exploration work in these areas.

Shri P. S. Parihar, Director (Retd.) AMD inquired about the data security as the work will be executed by outsourced agencies including private entities. All the data generated for gravity [1mGal] and magnetic [50nT] will be very sensitive.

Director (Technical), Mines informed that Department of Science and Technology has approved "Guidelines for acquiring and producing Geospatial Data and Geospatial Data Services including

Maps" vide DST F.No.SM/25/02/2020 (Part-I) on 15th February, 2021. These guidelines will be applicable to Geospatial Data, Maps, products, solutions and services offered by government agencies, autonomous bodies, academic and research institutions, private organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations and individuals. There shall be no requirement for prior approval, security clearance, license or any other restrictions on the collection, generation, preparation, dissemination, storage, publication, updating and/or digitization of Geospatial Data and Maps within the territory of India. There shall be a negative list of sensitive attributes that would require regulation before anyone can acquire and/or use such attribute data. Liberalisation of acquisition and production of geospatial data and geospatial data services includes gravity anomaly threshold upto 1mGal. He also mentioned that GSI will ask implementing agencies to submit non disclosure certification for the data security for the outsourced work.

GSI informed that estimated cost of the project has been derived for per gravity magnetic (GM) observation on the basis of expenditure incurred during ongoing ground gravity magnetic survey under NGPM programme through in-house resources. Considering all heads like RCA expenditure, salary of officers/Supervisory officers/RMH-I/drivers, Travelling Allowances of officials, instruments depreciation cost, software cost and report generation cost, the cost of 1 GM observation come out to be around INR 5000/- (excluding GST & other taxes). This includes data processing, collection of representative rock samples and their physical property measurement, interpretation and report submission. The cost has been evaluated by keeping 280 observations per toposheet and at the rate of Rs. 5000 (excluding taxes) per GM observation points. Additional increment in cost at the rate of 10% per year has been made for subsequent years in view of price escalation.

Shri Upendra Chandra Joshi, Joint Secretary, Mines and Member Secretary, EC informed that the project will generate baseline geoscience data which will be further used by Exploration Agencies for mineral exploration.

The Secretary, Mines suggested that GSI should circulate strategy note about the prioritizing area for the Ground Gravity and Magnetic Survey.

II. Multi-sensor Aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 13 to 22 in adjoining Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) areas under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP).

Shri P. Ramachandra Rao, Director (GP) presented the project proposal details for Multi Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey (Block-13 to 22) including the work components, year wise work plan and estimated cost of the project before EC.

He informed that survey work for block-1 to 4 has been completed and 110 potential areas have been identified. As on date, a total of 24 nos. of follow-up FSP items have been launched by GSI including 12 nos. of G4, 2 nos. of G3, 2 nos. of Regional Mineral Targeting, 6 nos. of Data integration and ground evaluation items and 2 areas for Heliborne survey.

Shri Alok Sharma, CMPDI (Retd.) asked about the remaining potential areas, whether GSI has further plan for doing exploration in these areas.

GSI informed that all the potential areas have been taken for further exploration under Mission-I or Mission-II FSP items in GSI's annual programmes.

III. National Geochemical Mapping (NGCM) Outsourcing in Deccan Trap & Himalayan belt areas.

Shri Sanjaya Kumar Dash, Director (G) presented the project proposal details for National Geochemical Mapping (NGCM) including the work components, year wise work plan (toposheets to be taken) and estimated cost of the project before EC.

Dr. N. P. Nathan, Dy. Director General, GSI (Retd.) opined that GSI has capacity and well established chemical laboratory to analyse 64 elements of NGCM samples. GSI should do orientation survey for NGCM work in Deccan Trap to bring out the results. The mineral composition for Nickel (Ni), Chromium (Cr) and Platinum (Pt) need to be analysed. He suggested that NGCM work should be carried out in-house by GSI after assessing manpower and analytical facility.

GSI informed that a total of 226 FSP items (around 400 toposheets) for NGCM work have been taken in current Field Season.

Secretary (Mines) desired that GSI work out the possibility of carrying out NGCM work as a part of its Field Season Program to the extent possible, without extending the completion period and the balance work can be considered for outsourcing.

Decision of EC

- The project "Ground Gravity-Magnetic survey under National Geophysical Mapping Programme (NGPM)" was approved with estimated cost of **Rs. 327.00 (excluding GST).** GSI is to circulate 'Strategy Note' prioritizing areas for the Ground Gravity and Magnetic Survey. The report of the First Year and progress of project will be reviewed by EC at the end of first year before tenders for subsequent years are floated by GSI. The approval is subject to appraisal by DIB and approval of DIB recommendation by competent authority.
- The project "Multi-sensor Aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 13 to 22 in adjoining Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) areas (NAGMP)" was approved with estimated cost of **Rs. 244.00 (including 18% GST)**. The report of the First Year and progress of project will be reviewed by EC at the end of first year before tenders for subsequent years are floated by GSI. The approval is subject to appraisal by DIB and approval of DIB recommendation by competent authority.
- The project "National Geochemical Mapping (NGCM) outsourcing in Deccan Trap & Himalayan belt areas" was deferred. GSI to will assess available manpower and analytical facilities available to carry in-house NGCM work in the proposed toposheets of Deccan Traps and Himalayan belt and approach EC with a revised plan, if required.

(Action: GSI/NMET)

Meeting ended with vote of thanks by Shri Amit Saran, Director & HoD NMET.

Annexure-1

List of Participants in 21st EC Meeting held on 19th July, 2021 at Khanij Kaksh, Ministry of Mines, New Delhi

S. No.	Name & Designation	Organization/ email	Remarks
1	Shri Alok Tandon, Secretary	Ministry of Mines, secy_mines@nic.in	In chair
2	Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Addl. Secretary, Mines & CG, IBM	Indian Bureau of Mines, cg@ibm.gov.in	Member, *Ex officio*
3	Shri Upendra C. Joshi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Ministry of Mines, ucjoshi.88@gov.in	Member Secretary, *Ex officio*
4	Smt. Nirupama Kotru, JS& FA	Ministry of Mines, jsfa.moc@nic.in	Member, *Ex officio*
5	Shri R. S. Garkhal, Director General	Geological Survey of India, dg.gsi@gov.in	Member, *Ex officio*
6	Dr. D. K. Sinha, Director	AMD, Dept. of Atomic Energy, director.amd@gov.in	Member, *Ex officio*
7	Dr. Hari Shankar Pandalai, Professor, IIT Mumbai	Exploration Expert, hspandalai9@gmail.com	Nominated Member
8	Shri P. S. Parihar, Director (Retd.), AMD	Exploration Expert, pariharps1954@gmail.com	Nominated Member
9	Shri Naresh Nautiyal, Head (BD&P) (Retd.), MECL	Exploration Expert, nautiyal.naresh5@gmail.com	Nominated Member
10	Shri Alok Sharma, GM & HoD (Expl) (Retd), CMPDIL	Exploration Expert, aloksharma360@gmail.com	Nominated Member
11	Dr. N. P. Nathan, DDG, GSI (Retd.)	Exploration Expert, Npnathan55@yahoo.co.in	Nominated Member
12	Shri Janardan Prasad, Addl. Director General and Chairman, TCC	Geological Survey of India janardan.prasad@gsi.gov.in	Invitee
13	Shri Amit Saran, Director	Ministry of Mines, amit.saran@nic.in	HoD, NMET
14	Shri Pradeep Singh, Director (Tech)	Ministry of Mines, dirtech.mom@nic.in	Invitee
15	Shri Ravi Chand, Deputy Director	DGM, Andhra Pradesh	State Representative
16	Dr. (Smt.) Pankajmala, Bhattacharya, Director (GP)	Geological Survey of India	Invitee
17	Shri P. Ramachandra Rao, Director (GP)	Geological Survey of India	Invitee
18	Shri Sanjaya Kumar Dash, Director (G)	Geological Survey of India	Invitee

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