Only through e-mail

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F. No. 6/3/2015-NMET/ 25 New Delhi, 05th May, 2022

Subject: Circulation of minutes of 4th meeting of the Governing Body (GB) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 13th April, 2022-reg.

Please find enclosed the minutes of 4th meeting of Governing Body of NMET held on 13th April, 2022 under the Chairmanship of Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Coal & Parliamentary Affairs, New Delhi for your kind perusal.

Action taken report on relevant paras may kindly be forwarded to this office.

[Vivek Kumar Sharma]
Director
National Mineral Exploration Trust

To,

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Hon'ble Minister of Mines, Coal & Parliamentary Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi.
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Atomic Energy, New Delhi.
4. PS to Minister of State, Mines, Shastri Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi.
5. PS to Minister In-Charge, Mines & Geology, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
6. PS to Minister In-Charge, Mines & Geology, Government of Assam, Guwahati.
7. PS to Minister In-Charge, Mines & Geology, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.
8. PS to Minister In-Charge, Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
9. PS to Minister In-Charge, Mines & Geology, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
10. PS to Minister In-Charge, Mines & Geology, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai.

Copy to,

1. The Director General, Geological Survey of India 27, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata.
2. The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, MECL, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur.

3. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
4. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
5. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & Minerals, Government of Assam.
6. The Principal Secretary-cum-Mines Commissioner, Government of Bihar.
7. The Principal Secretary, Depertment of Mines & Geology, Government of Goa.
8. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
10. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
11. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
12. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.
13. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
14. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.
15. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
16. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
17. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
18. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
19. The Principal Secretary, Mines & Geology, Government of Punjab.
20. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
21. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
22. The Principal Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Telangana.
23. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
24. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
25. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
26. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
27. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. PPS to Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. PS to JS & FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. PS to Joint Secretary (VKD), Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Director (Technical), Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET)

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Governing Body (GB) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 13th April, 2022

The 4th meeting of the Governing Body (GB) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs on 13th April, 2022 at New Delhi. The list of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

2. Shri Alok Tandon, Secretary, Ministry of Mines & Convener, GB, NMET welcomed the dignitaries and other delegates in the meeting and briefed about the activities undertaken by NMET. He informed that NMET is playing vital role in terms of funding for exploration to Notified Exploration Agencies (NEAs) to enhance mineral exploration activity in the country. Further, he informed that in FY 2021-22, NMET has approved projects of costing ₹748.00 Cr. and expenditure of ₹125.00 Cr. for mineral exploration. It was also informed that exploration expenditure was more than original Budget Estimates (BE) in FY 2021-22. Therefore, supplementary grant of ₹25.00 Cr. was obtained. Also, an incentive payment of ₹8.80 Cr. has been released to 14 states in respect of auction of mineral blocks.

3. Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines & Member Secretary, EC, NMET presented the agenda of GB meeting and discussed as follows:

3.1 Approval of minutes of 3rd GB meeting held on 31st July, 2021

The minutes of 3rd GB meeting was circulated on 14th September, 2021 to all GB members and no comments have been received.

Decision of GB:

GB approved the minutes of 3rd GB meeting held on 31st July, 2021.

3.2 Action Taken Report (ATR) of minutes of 3rd GB meeting held on 31st July, 2021

The Action Taken Report on minutes of 3rd GB meeting held on 31st July, 2021 was presented.

Decision of GB:

GB accepted the Action Taken Reports on minutes of 3rd GB meeting held on 31st July, 2021.

3.3 Overview of NMET activities during FY 2021-22.

Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines presented the details about funds collection, funds sanctioned, expenditure & project details as below:

Financial Year	Fund Collection (₹ in Cr.)	Approved Project cost (₹ in Cr.)	Expenditure (₹ in Cr.)	No. of projects approved	No. of projects completed
2015-16	134	--	--	--	--
2016-17	509	245	--	57	2
2017-18	557	146	80	25	22
2018-19	247	346	88	71	22
2019-20	665	55	68	20	35
2020-21	621	165	83	14	27
2021-22	878	748	125	32	15
Total	**3611**	**1705**	**444**	**219**	**123**

He informed that NMET has approved 219 projects with an estimated cost of ₹1705 Cr. wherein 123 projects have been already completed. Out of 123 completed projects, 6 mineral blocks have been auctioned with revenue generation of ₹1,63,703 Cr. and 12 more blocks are to be auctioned with estimated resource value of ₹84,517+ Cr., which is a significant contribution to the economic growth of the country in respect of mining sector.

3.4 Status of Autonomous Body & modification in Accounting Procedure

GB was informed that Committee on Establishment Expenditure (CEE) accorded approval on 26th August, 2021 with recommendation that specific approval to be obtained for creation of posts. Accordingly, a proposal for creation of posts was sent to the Department of Expenditure (DoE) on 12.10.2021 and 14.12.2021 respectively and accorded approval of 12 posts from Department of Expenditure (DoE) on 04th April, 2022.

Further, after the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Mines, a revised accounting procedure was submitted to Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance on 02nd February, 2022.

In this regard, he also informed that ₹2771.82 Cr. has been transferred from Consolidated Fund of India (CFI) to Public Account of NMET on 25th March, 2022 in last supplementary budget.

3.5 Project advance to State Governments/NEAs for mineral exploration

It was informed to the GB that State DMGs/DGMs/NEAs have frequently requested NMET for advance funds along with the approval of the projects in the interest of hassle free implementation of NMET approved exploration projects.

During the 3rd GB meeting, the Hon'ble Minister of Mines had advised to formulate a system for release of fund in advance for exploration projects for accelerating pace of mineral exploration.

Accordingly, a scheme has been formulated for advance to state DMGs/DGMs, central PSEs and state PSEs in three instalments as per **Annexure- 2**, summarized as below:

i. 1st instalment of 40% of the approved project cost along with sanction order,

ii. 2nd instalment of 40% after submission of Utilization Certificate (UC) and progress report in respect of 1st instalment.

iii. The 3rd and final instalment will be released after completion of the project on submission of Utilistion Certificate (UC) of earlier released amounts, Completion Certificate and review by Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) of NMET. The 3rd instalment will be equal to the actual cost of completion of the project minus amounts already released subject to total releases not exceeding the sanctioned amount.

Decision of GB:

GB approved and ratified the proposal.

3.6 Incentives to State Government in respect of Auction of mineral blocks

In 3rd GB meeting, Hon'ble Minister of Mines directed that financial incentive may be provided to State Governments from National Mineral Exploration Trust to facilitate the states to expedite auction of mineral blocks.

Accordingly, scheme for financial incentives to states was formulated as placed in **Annexure- 3**, which is summarized as below:

i. A sum of ₹20 lakh will be released to each State (where mineral blocks are available for auction) for financial year 2021-22.

ii. ₹20 lakh incentive for each successful auction of mineral block by the State Government.

iii. 50% of amount paid to Transaction Advisor, subject to a maximum of ₹5 lakh for each block which was put up for auction but could not be successfully auctioned.

iv. The reimbursements/incentive will be made for mineral blocks, auctioned or put up for auction but could not be auctioned, from 01.04.2021 onwards.

During the 5th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals held on 23rd November, 2021, initially an amount of ₹1.70 Cr. has been released to five states [Andhra Pradesh- ₹20 lakh; Chhattisgarh- ₹20 lakh; Gujarat- ₹30 lakh; Madhya Pradesh- ₹10 lakh and Odisha- ₹90 lakh] where 17 mineral blocks have been auctioned from 01.04.2021 onwards.

The total payment of incentives to states in respect of auction of mineral blocks during FY 2021-22 have been made and the status of payments made is:

S. No.	State	State Incentive (₹ in Lakh)	Block Incentive (₹ in Lakh)	Total Amount paid (₹ in Lakh)
1	Andhra Pradesh	20	60	80
2	Arunachal Pradesh	20	-	20
3	Assam	20	-	20
4	Chhattisgarh	20	40	60
5	Gujarat	20	60	80
6	Jharkhand	20	-	20
7	Karnataka	20	100	120
8	Kerala	20	-	20
9	Madhya Pradesh	20	80	100
10	Maharashtra	20	80	100
11	Odisha	20	180	200
12	Telangana	20	-	20
13	Tamil Nadu	20	-	20
14	Uttar Pradesh	20	-	20
	Total	**280**	**600**	**880**

Further, it was informed that after the announcement of various scheme number of Notice Inviting Tenders (NITs) issued for FY 2021-22 was as follows:

i. 37 NITs issued during April to August, 2021.

ii. 25 NITs issued during September to November, 2021.

iii. 120 NITs issued during December to March, 2021.

A total of 182 NITs were issued in which 117 NITs were issued within Mining Lease (ML) and 65 NITs were issued within Composite License (CL). He also informed 42 NITs were successfully auctioned and 111 NITs are in process. However, only 23 NITs were cancelled.

Decision of GB:

GB approved and ratified the proposed scheme.

3.7 Financial assistance for procurement of machinery/equipment/chemical analysis instruments aimed at enhancing the exploration activities

GB was informed that on request of Central Government Agencies (like IBM etc.) provision of financial assistance for procurement of machinery/equipment/instruments/upgradation of existing software and other latest technology instruments to Central Government organizations and State DGMs/DMGs has been proposed for enhancing the exploration activities. The NMET fund will be utilized in the following manner after evaluation of the proposal by TCC, NMET as per **Annexure- 4**

i. Central Government organizations like IBM, GSI etc. will be given fund from NMET as per the requirement for the purpose of procurement of machinery/equipment/ instruments and other latest technological upgradations of the existing equipment/ software etc.

ii. State DGMs/DMGs will be given upto 10% of the total approved exploration project cost including approved project cost of concerned state PSUs, sanctioned in a year for the purpose of procurement of machinery/equipment/instruments and other latest technological upgradations of the existing equipment/software etc.

Decision of GB:

GB approved and ratified the proposal.

3.8 Annual Plan and Budget

The budget estimates and actual expenditure details from FY 2018-19,2019-20,2020-21 and 2021-22 with further budget estimates for FY 2022-23 given below were presented for approval of GB.

(₹ in Cr.)

Heads	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
Budget Estimates (BE)	400	150	150	100	100
Revised Estimates (RE)	150	110	90	125	
Expenditure	88	68	83	124.71	

It was informed that exploration expenditure was more than original Budget Estimates (BE) in FY 2021-22. Therefore, supplementary grant of ₹25 Cr. was obtained.

It was also informed that BE allotted for 2022-23 is ₹100 Cr. against the proposed ₹184 Cr. Hence, additional funds will be requested during supplementary grant.

Decision of GB:

GB approved the annual plan and budget as above.

3.9 Partial reimbursement of exploration expenses for holders of Composite Licenses which are granted through auction for exploration of certain minerals.

GB was informed that a scheme has been formulated for partial reimbursement of exploration expenses from NMET for holders of Composite Licenses (CL) which are granted through auction for exploration of certain minerals to facilitate, encourage and incentivize private sector participation in all spheres of mineral exploration, with focus on deep seated minerals.

These minerals are Copper, Tellurium, Selenium, Lead, Zinc, Cadmium, Indium, Gold, Silver, Diamond, Rock Phosphate, Apatite, Potash, Critical & Strategic minerals (Lithium, Cobalt, Molybdenum, Rhenium, Tungsten, Graphite, Vanadium, Nickel, Tin, PGE, Columbite, Tantalite, Lepidolite, Scheelite, Cassiterite) and REE.

The Reimbursement scheme as placed at **Annexure- 5**, is as follows:

i. The exploration expenses incurred by holders of Composite Licences towards geological mapping, sampling and geochemical analysis will be reimbursed up to 50% of the direct costs as per the SoC of NMET with a maximum ceiling of ₹0.5 Cr.

ii. The exploration expenses incurred by holders of Composite Licences towards geophysical investigations will be reimbursed up to 50% of the direct costs as per the SoC of NMET with a maximum ceiling of ₹1.0 Cr.

iii. The exploration expenses incurred by holders of Composite Licences towards exploratory drilling will be reimbursed up to 50% of the direct costs as per the SoC of NMET with a maximum ceiling of ₹2.5 Cr.

iv. The expenses incurred for any other activities as part of the exploration will not be considered for reimbursement. However, it will be the responsibility of holders of Composite Licences to complete the exploration activities as per the best-in-class industry standards.

It was also explained that, in case the exploration leads to signing of Mining Lease and production of minerals, then the holder of such Mining Lease shall pay back the amount released by NMET within two years of commencement of production and dispatch of minerals.

The Chairman, GB had approved the scheme and also authorized the Secretary, Mines and Chairman, Executive Committee, NMET to make changes/ modifications in the proposed scheme including addition/deletion of any mineral commodity from the existing list.

Decision of GB:

GB approved and ratified the proposal.

3.10 Salient decisions of Executive Committee held between August 2021 to March 2022

The salient decisions taken by Executive Committee (EC) under the chairmanship of Secretary, Mines, during meeting held on 22nd December, 2021 and 11th March, 2022 & 16th March, 2022 (supplementary meeting of 23rd EC) respectively were presented for information of GB as follows:

i. 10 projects of basemetal, bauxite and others with an estimated cost of ₹22.01 Cr. have been approved (22nd EC meeting)

ii. 16 projects of lithium & potassium, PGE, Tin, Tungsten and others with an estimated cost of ₹48.12 Cr have been approved (23rd EC meeting & supplementary meeting of 23rd EC).

3.11 Review of progress of Baseline Geoscience projects of Geological Survey of India (GSI) funded through NMET

Dr. S. Raju, Director General, GSI made presentation on projects undertaken by NMET Fund. He informed GSI has to acquire baseline geoscience data in Obvious Geological Potential areas (OGP) and adjoining areas for identification of potential target areas for exploration. The following programmes are being undertaken by GSI-

i. Multi sensor Aero-geophysical Survey

ii. Heliborne Survey

iii. Deep Seismic Reflection Survey (DSRS) and Magneto-Telluric (MT) Survey

iv. Deep seated mineral prognosis by geophysical –geological techniques (GSI-NGRI collaborative project)

v. National Geophysical Mapping Programme [NGPM]

vi. National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR)

He also informed that Multi sensor aero-geophysical survey is a vital tool to demarcate the concealed and deep seated mineral resources. Based on the work carried out so far, 150 potential areas (Block-1 to 4: 110 and Block-11: 40) have been identified for future exploration in 5 completed blocks. Follow up heliborne TDEM surveys in identified potential targets is under tendering stage. As a follow up 22 mineral exploration programme for commodities viz. basemetal, diamond, molybdenum, phosphorite, REE launched/under execution since 2020 in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh.

He informed that GSI is facing problem in getting clearance for DGCA for carrying out Multi sensor aero-geophysical survey and also outsourcing NGPM survey through GeM as limited participants are there on GeM.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas suggested that a meeting may be convened by Secretary/Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines with the concerned Ministries/Organizations to sort out the issues hampering faster implementation of these projects.

3.12 Scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration (PEA) Agencies in Mineral Exploration.

The scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration, through NMET funding was presented before the GB.

Further, GB was informed that, so far, seven agencies have been accredited by QCI-NABET. Out of these, five agencies have been notified under the second proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMDR Act on 02nd March, 2022 and three agencies are under process. The process of notification of other agencies is under consideration in the Ministry of Mines.

Accordingly, a scheme has been formulated with the objective to lay down the mechanism for engagement of Notified PEAs in mineral exploration and enable funding of these operations by such Notified PEAs through National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) or State Governments, as the case may be as per the manner detailed in the scheme for engagement of Notified Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration, placed in **Annexure- 6.**

Decision of GB:

GB approved the proposal.

4.0 Remarks by Hon'ble Members:

On behalf of Shri Achar Halappa Basappa, Hon'ble Minister of Department of Mines & Geology Government of Karnataka, Shri Pankaj Kumar Pandey, Secretary (MSME & Mines), Govt. of Karnataka informed that during last FY, Karnataka Government has auctioned maximum nos. of blocks mainly Iron Ore, Limestone & Gold. Total of 27 blocks were put up for auction. Out that 9 are successfully auctioned and remaining are in progress. He requested for increase in 10% financial assistance which received from Ministry to enhance capacity of DGM, Laboratory. He also informed that Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited (HGML) has been notified to carry out mineral exploration projects through NMET fund and proposal has been submitted to Ministry of Mines to notify Karnataka State Minerals Corporation Limited for taking up mineral exploration work through NMET fund.

Additional Secretary Mines informed GB that DGM, Karnataka has not taken up any mineral exploration work through NMET fund and requested to submit the project proposals to TCC for NMET funding.

Shri Brajendra Pratap Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Mineral Resource Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh requested to increase the financial assistance for procurement of machinery/ equipment/ chemical analysis instruments for State DGM from the present of 10% of the total approved exploration project cost sanctioned in a year or limit the funds to 10% of the total NMET contribution given by State. He also enquired about the payment mode for the notified private exploration agencies.

Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs clarified that Central Government was ready to consider providing more fund, if required and requested states to first submit projects for mineral exploration to NMET and effectively utilize the funds obtained from NMET.

Secretary, Mines briefed the GB about the salient features of the scheme for engagement of private exploration agencies, details of which were available agenda annexure. He also requested Government of Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh to submit appropriate projects to NMET for funding.

Dr. Jitender Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Atomic Energy expressed concern about the lack clarity of the State Governments regarding the objectives and procedure for utilisation of NMET fund. He also expressed that while Central Government was ready to provide the fund but States DGMs were not coming up with good mineral exploration proposals. He requested that a meeting of all State Ministers be organised to inform them about the procedures and funding mechanism for maximum utilization of schemes by State Governments.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas congratulated NMET for holding this meeting as per schedule and for the steps taken for enhancing exploration activities of NMET. He expressed that now the clarity is seen in direction to be taken for the mineral exploration in the country.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas further stated that abundance resources are available with central Government and also allocated to the state Government agencies, but not utilized in time due to various reasons. He advised to hold a

meeting with all the stakeholder/organization for proper utilisation of these funds and to sort out the roadblocks in execution of projects so that these may be completed in the scheduled time and further potential mineral blocks auctioned. The execution of these projects should be done in a mission mode by the exploration agencies with planned timelines to achieve desired goal and accomplish Atmanirbhar Bharat in mining sector.

5.0 Concluding remarks by Hon'ble Minister, Mines and Chairman, GB:

Shri Pralhad Joshi, Hon'ble Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs appreciated the efforts of the Secretary, Mines and Additional Secretary, Mines for sanctioning of project of cost ₹748 Cr. and expenditure of ₹125 Cr. in FY 2021-22. He informed that NMET is being made fully autonomous and NMET fund have been transfer to public account so that fund can be utilized as required for mineral exploration.

After reforms in last 4 months, 120 NITs have been issued for auction. He also expressed that Central Government has already provided fund to the State Government for auctioning of mineral blocks and ₹8.8 Cr. has been paid to 14 State. He advised States for more participation in exploration projects through NMET funding for availability of more auctionable blocks. Further, States should submit more proposals for NMET funding and effectively utilize the funds being made available by NMET in the form of advance, as incentive and for infrastructure development before requesting for increase in the present limits.

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

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Annexure- 1

List of participants in 4th GB meeting held on 13th April, 2022 at New Delhi.

S. No.	Name of Participant	Designation
1	Shri Pralhad Joshi	Hon'ble Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs & Chairperson, *ex officio*
2	Shri Hardeep S. Puri	Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas & Member, *ex officio*
3	Dr. Jitendra Singh	Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Atomic Energy & Member, *ex officio*
4	Shri Achar Halappa Basappa	Hon'ble Minister of Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Karnataka & Member, *ex officio*
5	Shri Brajendra Pratap Singh	Hon'ble Minister of Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of MP & Member, *ex officio*
6	Shri Alok Tandon	Secretary, Ministry of Mines & Convener, *ex officio*
7	Shri Sanjay Lohiya	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines & Member Secretary, EC NMET
8	Dr. S. Raju	Director General, GSI
9	Shri Janardan Prasad	Additional Director General, GSI & Chairman (TCC) NMET
10	Dr. Ranjit Rath	CMD, MECL
11	Shri Pankaj Kumar Pandey	Secretary (MSME & Mines), Govt. of Karnataka
12	Dr. Lakshmannan S.	Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Mines & Minerals Deptt., Industry & Commerce Deptt.
13	Shri N. Anand	MD, Assam Mineral Development Corp. Ltd.
14	Dr. Veena Kumari D	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines
15	Shri Amit Saran	Director (NMET), Ministry of Mines
16	Dr. Honnareddy N.	PS to Hon'ble Minister of Mines
17	Ms. Shipra Mishra	APS to Hon'ble Minister of Mines
18	Shri Vaibhav Kumar	APS to Minister of State Coal & Mines
19	Shri Rasaal Dwivedi	PS to Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas
20	Shri M. Venkateshan	OSD to the Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Atomic Energy
21	Shri Prashant Kumar Jha	OSD to the Hon'ble Minister of State, Department of Atomic Energy
22	Dr. Nandan Kumar J. V.	PS to Hon'ble Minister of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Karnataka
23	Shri Virendra Tiwari	PS to Hon'ble Minister of Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of MP
24	Shri K. P. Dinkar	Deputy Director, DGM, Govt. of MP
25	Shri J. P. Srivastava	Asst. Geologist, DGM, Govt. of MP

Annexure- 2

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F. No. 42/1/2017-NMET/176 New Delhi, 16th December, 2021

To
As per the list

Subject: Release of funds to State Government / NEAs for mineral exploration - Reg.

Madam/Sir,

NMET provides financial support to State Government / Notified Exploration Agencies (NEA) for carrying out mineral exploration projects. Currently, the financial support to States / NEAs is provided on reimbursement basis towards expenditure incurred by them on mineral exploration projects in the form of Grant-in-aid (General).

2. The State Governments have requested for release of funds along with the approval of the projects in the interest of faster implementation of NMET approved projects.

3. Considering the above request, the Ministry of Mines has decided to release funds to DMGs/DGMs of State Governments, Central PSEs and State PSEs in the following manner:

(i) 1st instalment along with Sanction order of the project – 40% of the approved project cost.

(ii) 2nd instalment after submission of Utilization Certificate (UC) and progress report in respect of 1st instalment – 40% of the approved project cost.

(iii) 3rd and final instalment after submission of Utilization Certificate, progress report and review by Technical cum Cost Committee of NMET – 20% of the approved project cost.

4. The release of funds shall be subject to the following conditions:

(i) The fund shall be utilised only for the sanctioned project for which it has been released.

(ii) In case of non-utilisation of the fund released, it shall be returned to NMET or NMET may adjust the same against other project(s) of State Government/CPSE/State PSE.

(iii) Interest earned on the fund shall be utilised for exploration activities of the same project and will be considered as fund released by NMET.

(iv) The same project should not be financed from any other source.

(v) The UC shall be submitted in accordance with GFR 2017.

(vi) The State Government / CPSE / State PSE shall submit final UC and completion certificate within 6 months from release of last instalment.

5. As the funds will be released through PFMS, the concerned State Government / NEA (DGM/DMG/CPSE/SPSE etc.), which are not registered on PFMS as an Agency, are requested to provide details as per **Annexure-1** for registration of them as an Agency under NMET. The requisite details may please be forwarded through email on nmet-mines@gov.in.

This is for your kind information please

A Saran 16/12/2021

(Amit Saran)
Director & HoD, NMET
Ministry of Mines

To

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & 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 & Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.

12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.
14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines & 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 & Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.
27. The Chairman & Managing Director, MECL, Nagpur
28. The Chairman & Managing Director, KIOCL, Bengaluru
29. The Chairman & Managing Director, OMECL, Bhubaneshwar
30. The Chairman & Managing Director, NMDC, Hyderabad
31. The Chairman & Managing Director, CMPDI, Ranchi
32. The Chairman & Managing Director, TSMDC, Hyderabad
33. The Chairman & Managing Director, MPSMC, Bhopal
34. The CEO, MERIT, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary/PS to AS(SL)/PS to JS(UJ)/PS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.

Following details to be provided by State Government / Notified Exploration Agency

S. No.	Particular	
1	Type of Registration	State Government Institution/CPSE/SPSE etc.
2	PAN Number	
3	Agency Name (Name of the Department)	
4	Act/Registration No. (if available)	
5	Date of Registration (DD/MM/YYYY), if applicable	
6	Registering Authority, if applicable	
7	State of Registration	
8	TIN Number	
9	TAN Number	
10	PAN Verify Status	
11	GST Number	
12	Block No/Building/Village/Name of Premises	
13	Road/Street/Post office	
14	Area/Locality	
15	City	
16	State	
17	District	
18	Pin Code	
19	Contact Person	
20	Designation	
21	Phone No.	
22	Mobile No.	
23	Email	
24	Bank Account Number	
25	Name as per bank A/C	
26	IFSC Code	
27	Branch & Bank Detail	

Date:

Signature:
Name:
Designation:

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F. No. 42/1/2017-NMET/ 217 New Delhi, 19th January, 2022

To,

As per the list

Subject: Release of funds to State Government / NEAs for mineral exploration- Additional guidelines- reg.

Reference: This office letter F.No.42/1/2017-NMET/176 dated 16th December, 2021.

1. There is need to clarify regarding application of guidelines circulated vide letter under reference. There is need to also clarify regarding 3rd and last instalment. Therefore, in continuation earlier guidelines, the following modifications and additional provisions are being made in Para-3 of above referred letter:

iii. The 3rd and final instalment will be released after completion of the project on submission of Utilistion Certificate (UC) of earlier released amounts, Completion Certificate and review by Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) of NMET. The 3rd instalment will be equal to the actual cost of completion of the project minus amounts already released subject to total releases not exceeding the sanctioned amount.

iv. In respect of projects approved by NMET before 16th December, 2021 where no or some payments have been made, funds will be released as per the procedure laid down in the letter dated 16.12.2021 after deducting already released amount, if any, from the applicable instalment. Henceforth, there will be no reimbursement of bills for such projects in future.

2. This is for your kind information.

Maneesh Khar 19/01/2022
(Maneesh Khar)
Director, NMET

To,

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & 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 & Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
14. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.
15. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
16. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
17. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
18. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
19. The Principal Secretary, Mines & Geology, Government of Punjab.
20. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
21. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.
22. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
23. The Principal Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Telangana.
24. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
25. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
26. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
27. The Chairman & Managing Director, MECL, Nagpur.
28. The Chairman & Managing Director, KIOCL, Bengaluru.
29. The Chairman & Managing Director, OMECL, Bhubaneshwar.
30. The Chairman & Managing Director, NMDC, Hyderabad.
31. The Chairman & Managing Director, CMPDI, Ranchi.
32. The Chairman & Managing Director, TSMDC, Hyderabad.
33. The Chairman & Managing Director, MPSMC, Bhopal.
34. The CEO, MERIT, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.

Copy for information to:

PSO to Secretary/PS to AS(SL)/PS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.

Annexure- 3

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F. No. 4/4/2021-NMET/179 **New Delhi, 29th December, 2021**

To,

As per List

Subject: Incentives to the State Government in respect of auction of mineral blocks - Reg.

Madam/Sir,

Reference is invited to this office letter no. F. No. 6/4/2015-NMET/101 dated 24th August, 2021 in respect of "Reimbursement of Transactional Advisor Fee to the State Government for auction of mineral blocks".

2. In modification of above-mentioned letter, the Hon'ble Minster of Mines and Chairman of the Governing Body of NMET has approved the following:

i. A sum of ₹20 lakhs will be released to each State (where mineral blocks are available for auction) for financial year 2021-22.
ii. ₹20 lakh incentive for each successful auction of mineral block by the State Government.
iii. 50% of amount paid to Transaction Advisor, subject to a maximum of ₹5 lakh for each block which was put up for auction but could not be successfully auctioned.
iv. The reimbursements/incentive will be made for mineral blocks, auctioned or put up for auction but could not be auctioned, from 01.04.2021 onwards.

3. The incentive may be used by the State governments for the following purposes:

i. Reimbursement of Transaction Advisor Fee,
ii. Preparation of DPR/ project proposals for NMET,
iii. Strengthening of infrastructure of Mining departments,
iv. Purchase of equipment- exploration related machineries, laboratory upgradation, specialized software etc.
v. Undertaking studies for Mineral development in the state,
vi. Capacity building- training programs for personnel engaged in exploration activities.
vii. Studies related to Economic scenario and market analysis of mineral sector
viii. Exposure visits within and outside India, etc.

4. The State government shall submit a proposal for release of incentive/reimbursement every quarter for the blocks auctioned/ put up for auction but could not be auctioned during the previous quarter.

5. The funds will be released to the bank account as specified by DMG/DGM of the State. The State governments are required to provide the bank account details.

This is for your kind information please.

29/12/2024

(Amit Saran)
Director & HoD, NMET

To,

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & 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 & Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.
14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines & 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 & Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary/PS to AS(SL)/PS to JS(UJ)/PS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.

F. No. 6/9/2015-NMET/ 294
Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

New Delhi, 23rd March, 2022

To

As per the list

Subject: Financial assistance for procurement of machinery/ equipment/ chemical analysis instruments aimed at enhancing the exploration activities - reg.

Availability of machinery/ equipment / instruments and other latest technological upgradations of the existing equipment/ software etc. are of paramount importance for successful accomplishment of mineral exploration work and expediting the pace of mineral exploration.

2. In order to facilitate strengthening of machinery/ equipment / instruments in facilities of Central Government organizations and State DGMs/DMGs, aimed at enhancing the exploration activities, NMET will consider proposals for providing funds, after evaluation by Technical-cum Cost Committee (TCC) as follows:

i. Central Government organizations like IBM, GSI etc. will be given fund from NMET as per the requirement for the purpose of procurement of machinery/ equipment/ instruments and other latest technological upgradations of the existing equipment/ software etc.
ii. State DGMs/DMGs will be given upto 10% of the total approved exploration project cost including approved project cost of concerned state PSUs, sanctioned in a year for the purpose of procurement of machinery/ equipment/ instruments and other latest technological upgradations of the existing equipment/ software etc.

3. The detail project proposal in this regard should be submitted to NMET in soft and hard copy to the following:

Director,
National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET),
Ministry of Mines,
F-114, Ist Floor,
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi- 110001
Email ID: nmet-mines@gov.in

Maneesh Khar 23/03/2022
(Maneesh Khar)
Director, NMET

To

1. The Director General, Geological Survey of India, 27, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata - 700 016.

2. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, 2nd Floor, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440 001.
3. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
4. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
5. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & Minerals, Government of Assam.
6. The Principal Secretary-cum-Mines Commissioner, Government of Bihar.
7. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
8. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Goa.
9. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
10. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
11. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
12. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
13. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.
14. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
15. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.
16. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
17. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
18. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
19. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
20. The Principal Secretary, Mines & Geology, Government of Punjab.
21. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
22. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
23. The Principal Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Telangana.
24. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
25. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
26. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
27. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
28. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.

Copy to

1. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Assam.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Bihar.
4. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Chhattisgarh.
5. The Director of Mines & Geology, Government of Goa.
6. Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Govt. of Gujarat.
7. The Director, Department of Industries, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
9. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand.
10. The Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka.
11. The Director, Directorate of Mining & Geology, Government of Kerala.
12. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
13. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra.
14. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya.
15. The Director, Directorate of Mines, Government of Odisha.
16. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan.
17. The Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu.
18. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana.

19. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
20. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
21. The Director, Directorate of Mines & Minerals, Government of West Bengal.

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

Annexure- 5

Scheme for partial reimbursement of exploration expenses for holders of Composite Licences which are granted through auction for exploration of certain minerals

1. Background:

The National Mineral Exploration Policy (NMEP), 2016 envisages private sector participation in mineral exploration and to facilitate, encourage and incentivize private sector participation in all spheres of mineral exploration to harness the technical expertise, technological capability and the financial resources of the private sector to discover and exploit the country's vast mineral resources. It also envisages incentive for exploration agencies to mitigate their risk for exploration works.

In pursuance of provisions of NMEP, 2016 to encourage private section participation in exploration, Ministry of Mines constituted a committee of experts for suggesting measures to facilitate, encourage and incentivize private sector participation in all spheres of mineral exploration, with focus on deep seated minerals.

Based on the recommendations of the committee, a scheme for partial reimbursement of exploration expenses for holders of Composite Licences which are granted through auction for exploration of certain minerals has been formulated.

2. Objective:

The objective of the scheme is to provide partial reimbursement of exploration expenses for holders of Composite Licences which are granted through auction for exploration of certain minerals.

3. Eligibility Criteria:

i. Holders of Composite Licences which are granted through auction.

ii. Only for exploration of specific minerals viz.

a) Copper, tellurium, selenium

b) Lead

c) Zinc, Cadmium, Indium

d) Gold, Silver

e) Diamond

f) Rock Phosphate

g) Apatite

h) Potash

i) Critical and strategic minerals (Lithium, cobalt, molybdenum, rhenium, tungsten, graphite, vanadium, nickel, tin, platinum group of elements, columbite, tantalite, lepidolite, scheelite, cassiterite)

j) Elements of the Rare earth Group

4. Conditions:

i. Scheme is optional for holder of Composite Licences which are granted through auction after date of notification of the scheme. The scheme will remain in force from 3 years from date of its notification.

ii. Acceptance/ rejection of a proposal under this scheme or any dispute regarding reimbursement under the scheme shall not have any bearing on discharging the obligation of the holders of Composite Licences as per the terms and conditions of Composite Licence prescribed by the State Government at the time of auction of the concession.

iii. In case the exploration leads to signing of Mining Lease and production of minerals, then the holder of such Mining Lease shall pay back the amount released by NMET within two years of commencement of production and dispatch of minerals.

5. Procedure for submission of proposal:

i. Holders of Composite Licences granted through auction shall submit their proposal to NMET through DGM/DMG of the concerned state government. The proposal shall contain (a) General Information [Annexure- 5(i)] and (b) Project proposal [Annexure- 5(ii)] along with (c) a copy of Composite Licence (CL).

6. Evaluation, approval and reimbursement:

i. The project proposals submitted by eligible holders of Composite Licences will be evaluated on technical and cost parameters by the Technical Cum Cost (TCC) Committee of NMET.

ii. Based on the recommendation of TCC, the Executive Committee (EC) will evaluate and approve the proposals for partial reimbursement through NMET.

iii. After the approval of EC, necessary sanction order will be issued by NMET for reimbursement of exploration expenses as per the details provided by the holder of Composite Licence Annexure- 5(i).

7. Scale for reimbursement of exploration expenses:

i. The exploration expenses incurred by holders of Composite Licences towards geological mapping, sampling and geochemical analysis will be reimbursed up to 50% of the direct costs as per the SoC of NMET with a maximum ceiling of ₹0.5 Cr.

ii. The exploration expenses incurred by holders of Composite Licences towards geophysical investigations will be reimbursed up to 50% of the direct costs as per the SoC of NMET with a maximum ceiling of ₹1.0 Cr.

iii. The exploration expenses incurred by holders of Composite Licences towards exploratory drilling will be reimbursed up to 50% of the direct costs as per the SoC of NMET with a maximum ceiling of ₹2.5 Cr.

iv. The expenses incurred for any other activities as part of the exploration will not be considered for reimbursement. However, it will be the responsibility of holders of Composite Licences to complete the exploration activities as per the best-in-class industry standards.

8. Other conditions:

i. NMET will monitor progress of project work on its own/ by Officers of Central Government/ by any other entity engaged/ decided by NMET/ Ministry of Mines.

ii. The reimbursement towards exploration cost will be considered only for the prospecting stage of the Composite License.

iii. Holder of Composite Licences shall make the exploration expenses for carrying out exploration activities through a dedicated bank account &maintain duly audited books of accounts.

iv. The holder of Composite Licences shall have to share geological and geophysical data/results of the detailed exploration campaign along with a geological report with Directorate of Geology and Mines of respective State, Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) for National Mineral Inventory (NMI) and Geological Survey of India (GSI) for uploading the same in the NGDR for future reference or any other mechanism as specified by NMET from time to time.

v. The recovered cores from the exploratory drilling activities will be handed over by the holder of Composite Licences to DMGs/DGMs of the concerned state for future reference.

vi. The reimbursement shall be made in maximum four instalments. The amount reimbursed in each installment will not be more than 50% of expenditure incurred.

vii. Reimbursement will be settled through bank transfers only, in the dedicated bank account as furnished by the holder of Composite Licence Annexure- 5(i).

Ministry of Mines/NMET reserve the right to modify the scheme as may be necessary from time to time.

Annexure- 5(i)

Details required for partial reimbursement towards exploration expenses for holders of Composite Licences which are granted through auction

S. No.	Particular	
1	Name of Holder of Composite Licence	
2	Legal Status of Claimant (Power of Attorney/ Affidavit/ Registered Deed)	
	i. Postal Address:	
	ii. Telephone Number (Office):	
	iii. Fax Number (Office):	
	iv. Mobile No.:	
	v. Telephone Number (Residence):	
	vi. E-Mail:	
3	**ITR Details (For the period of exploration)**	
4	**Details required for PFMS**	
	i. Type of Registration	Institution /CPSE/SPSE/Private etc.
	ii. PAN Number	
	iii. Agency Name	
	iv. Act/Registration No. (if available)	
	v. Date of Registration (if available)	
	vi. Registering Authority (if available)	
	vii. State of Registration	
	viii. TIN Number	
	ix. TAN Number	
	x. GST Number	
	xi. Block No/Building/Village/Name of Premises/ Road/Street/Post office	
	xii. Area/Locality/ City	
	xiii. District/State	
	xiv. Pin Code	
	xv. Contact Person	
	xvi. Designation	
	xvii. Mobile No.	
	xviii. E-mail	
	xix. Bank Account Number	
	xx. Name as per bank A/C	
	xxi. IFSC Code	
	xxii. Branch & Bank Detail	
	xxiii. ITR Details (For the period of exploration)	
5	**Details of Composite Licence**	
	i. Block Name/project	
	ii. Block area (sq. km)	
	iii. Survey of India Toposheet Number(s) along with Lat. and Long.	
	iv. Village (s)	
	v. Taluka (s)	
	vi. District (s)	
	vii. State	
	Mineral commodity	

Date:

Signature:
Name:
Designation:

Annexure- 5(ii)

Proposal for _____Block, _____District, _____State for Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) under NMET.

(Basemetals/ Ferrous/ Non-Ferrous/ Industrial/ Strategic & Critical/ Precious metals etc.)

By

_____Agency

Place:
Date:

Summary of the Block for Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage)
GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE BLOCK

	Features	Details
	Block ID	
	Exploration Agency	
	Commodity	
	Mineral Belt	
	Completion Period with entire Time schedule to complete the project	
	Objectives	
	Whether the work will be carried out by the proposed agency or through outsourcing and details thereof. Components to be outsourced and name of the outsource agency	
	Name/ Number of Geoscientists	
	Expected Field days (Geology) Geological Party Days	
1.	**Location**	
	Latitude	
	Longitude	
	Villages	
	Tehsil/ Taluk	
	District	
	State	
2.	**Area (hectares/ square kilometres)**	
	Block Area	
	Forest Area	
	Government Land Area	
	Private Land Area	
3.	**Accessibility**	
	Nearest Rail Head	
	Road	
	Airport	
4.	**Hydrography**	
	Local Surface Drainage Pattern (Channels)	
	Rivers/ Streams	
5.	**Climate**	
	Mean Annual Rainfall	
	Temperatures (December) (Minimum) Temperatures (June) (Maximum)	
6.	**Topography**	
	Toposheet Number	
	Morphology of the Area	
7	**Availability of baseline geoscience data**	
	Geological Map (1:50K/ 25K)	**Available / Not Available**

	Geochemical Map	**Available / Not Available**
	Geophysical Map (Aeromagnetic, ground geophysical, Regional as well as local scale GP maps)	**Available / Not Available**
8.	**Justification for taking up Reconnaissance Survey / Regional Exploration**	Details should be furnished with surface/ subsurface (pits/old work) geological, geochemical. Geophysical data. In case of exploration proposed near the active mine area, sufficient justification should be given by collecting surface samples in suitable location which represent the mineralisation from the area proposed for current exploration work along with analytical data

Detailed description on the following titles to be made in the proposal.

1. **Block Summary**
   Physiography
   Background Geology (Regional Geology, Geology of the Block).
   Mineral potentiality based on geology, geophysics, ground geochemistry etc.
   Scope for proposed exploration.
   Observation and Recommendations of previous work.

2. **Previous Work**
   Previous Exploration in adjoining area (Regional area); All the sample (bed rock/trench/ groove/soil), borehole location should be plotted on the geological map and analytical data should be discussed briefly
   Previous Exploration in the proposed block area: All the sample (bed rock/trench/ groove/soil), borehole location should be plotted on the geological map and analytical data should be discussed briefly

3. **Block description**

Block Corner points Cardinal Points	Latitude	Longitude
A B C D E etc.		

4. **Planned Methodology**
5. **Nature Quantum and Target**

G4 stage GR should be submitted for G3 stage proposal and G3 stage GR for G2 proposal
Succinct details of the previous stage exploration

Nature and Quantum of work proposed

Components	G4 Stage
Aerial reconnaissance	Remote sensing, airborne geophysical survey etc.
Geological Survey	i) 1.25K/ 12.5K ii) Assessment of lithology, structure, surface mineralisation and analysis of old history of mining, if any.
Geochemical Survey	i) Regional Grab / chip / Stream Sediment / Soil Sampling ii) Recording of broad geomorphology, drainage, etc.
Geophysical Survey	Aero-geophysical / Regional ground geophysical survey (Refer another table below)
Pitting/ Trenching	Five to ten to expose mineralised zone. The location of Pitting and trenching should be judiciously planned to cover the entire mineralised body, to delineate the strike extension and also for planning scout boreholes. Sample length to be specified
Scout drilling / Systematic drilling	Few boreholes if required along the positive profiles delineated by surface sampling/pitting trenching
Grab and Chip sampling	A few samples from bed rock (few representative samples from all the exposed rocksin the area for first-hand information and more

	samples from rocks which host the mineralisation). Few representatives samples to be subjected to Davis tube recovery test in case of BMQ.
Core sample	Sample from mineralised zones as well as hanging wall/footwall side to be collected. Sample length to be specified
Petrographic and mineragraphic studies	Principal rock types, mineral assemblage, identification of minerals of interest
Synthesis of all available data	i) Integration of regional geophysical, geological and geochemical data. ii) Synthesis of all available data and Report writing

Borehole spacing (As per MEMC, 2015)

Type of deposit	Bedded Stratiform and Tabular deposit of regular habit minerals to be identified	Bedded stratiform and tabular deposits of irregular habit (Minerals to be identified)	Lenticular bodies occurring en echelon Lenses, pockets. (Different minerals)
G4 Stage	Scout drilling, if necessary (In line with grid specified by the Central Government / IBM time to time).	Scout drilling, if necessary (In line with grid specified by the Central Government / IBM time to time).	Scout drilling, if necessary (In line with grid specified by the Central Government / IBM time to time).
Remarks	For shallow surficial deposits continuing to a depth of up to 6 m from surface pitting in grid spacing for various levels of prospecting may suffice. For deposits continuing further in depth, drilling is recommended.	For shallow surficial deposits continuing to a depth of up to 6m from surface pitting in grid spacing for various levels of prospecting may suffice. For deposits continuing further in depth, drilling is recommended.	----------
(Vertical depth of intersection of mineralised zone should be specified (first level), number of boreholes, approximate borehole spacing, approximate length of boreholes may be specified)			

Geophysical Studies

General specifications of geophysical studies for various commodities is practice by GSI are as below, however, the parameters likely to vary depending on the local geological set-up. In general, after delineation of surface indication of mineralization and surface mineralization control, areas are selected for regional ground geophysical data acquisition and its studies.

Commodity	Parameters	Technique	G4 stage (Reconnaissance Survey)
Chromite	Method	Gravity	1-2 km or GPM data can be used
	Spacing		
	Method	Magnetic	1-2 km or GPM data can be used
	Spacing		
Manganese	Method	Gravity	1-2 km or GPM data can be used
	Spacing		
	Method	Magnetic	1-2 km or GPM data can be used
	Spacing		
Basemetals	Method	Gravity	1-2 km
	Spacing		
	Method	Magnetic	1-2 km
	Spacing		
	Method	Electrical Resistivity, IP, SP	Profiles as per objective
	Spacing		
Iron Ore	Method	Magnetic	1-2 km grid, Regional
	Spacing		
REE & RM	Method	Gravity	--
	Spacing		
	Method	Resistivity	--
	Spacing		
	Method	Radiometric	--
	Spacing		
Gold/ PGE & Ni/ Basemetals	Method	IP / Resistivity	Traversing, 200 m – 400 m traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Spacing		
	Method	Magnetic	Traversing, 200 m – 400 m traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Spacing		
	Method	SP	Traversing, 200 m – 400 m traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Spacing		
Graphite	Method	SP	Traversing, 200 m – 400 m traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Spacing		
	Method	Gravity	Traversing, 200 m – 400 m traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Spacing		
	Method	Magnetic	Traversing, 200 m – 400 m traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Spacing		

Diamond	Method	Gravity	Random grid, 1-2 Km
	Spacing		
	Method	Magnetic	Random grid, 1-2 Km
	Spacing		
	Method	Resistivity	Random grid, 1-2 Km
	Spacing		
Gemstone	Method	Methods, profiles, spacing will be as per the nature of host rocks	
	Spacing		
Potash and Phosphorite	Method	Methods, profiles, spacing will be as per the nature and association of these deposits 2D & 3D Seismic, radiometric survey	
	Spacing		
Tin, Tungsten and Molybdenum	Method	Methods, profiles, spacing will be as per the nature and association of these deposits	

6. **Manpower deployment**
7. **Break-up of expenditure**
8. **References**

List of Plates

Plate 1: Geological map on 1:50,000 with location index.
Plate 2: Geological map/s on 1:50,000.
Plate 3: Ground geophysical map/s (NGPM) on 1:50,000.
Plate 4: Aeromagnetic map/s.
Plate 5: Proposed block boundary over Geological map.
Plate 6: Proposed block boundary over Land use/ Accessibility map. Not required at this stage.
Plate 7: Proposed block boundary over topographic map on 1:50,000.
Any other relevant plates.

Proposal for _____Block, _____District, _____State for G3 or G2 Stage Mineral Exploration under NMET.

(Basemetals/ Ferrous/ Non-Ferrous/ Industrial/ Strategic & Critical/ Precious metals etc.,)

By

_____Agency

Place:
Date:

Summary of the Block for G3 or G2 stage exploration

	Features	Details
	Block ID	
	Current Exploration Agency	For G3 or G2
	Previous Exploration Agency	G4/ G3 stage GR Producing Agency
	G4 stage Geological Report (Previous stage Geological Report)	G4 stage GR should be submitted for G3 stage proposal and G3 Stage GR for G2 proposal
	Commodity	
	Mineral Belt	
	Completion Period with entire Time schedule to complete the project	
	Objectives	
	Whether the work will be carried out by the proposed agency or through outsourcing and details thereof. Components to be outsourced and name of the outsource agency	
	Name/ Number of Geoscientists	
	Expected Field days (Geology, Geophysics, Surveyor)	
1.	**Location**	
	Latitude	
	Longitude	
	Villages	
	Tehsil/ Taluk	
	District	
	State	
2.	**Area (hectares/ square kilometres)**	
	Block Area	
	Forest Area	
	Government Land Area	
	Private Land Area	
3.	**Accessibility**	
	Nearest Rail Head	
	Road	
	Airport	
4.	**Hydrography**	
	Local Surface Drainage Pattern (Channels)	
	Rivers/ Streams	
5.	**Climate**	
	Mean Annual Rainfall	
	Temperatures (December) (Minimum) Temperatures (June) (Maximum)	
6.	**Topography**	
	Toposheet Number	
	Morphology of the Area	
7	**Availability of baseline geoscience data**	

	Geological Map (1:50K/ 25K)	**Available / Not Available**
	Geochemical Map	**Available / Not Available**
	Geophysical Map (Aerogeophysical, Ground geophysical, Regional as well as local scale GP maps)	**Available / Not Available**
8.	**Justification for taking up G3 or G2 stage mineral exploration**	Details should be furnished with surface, subsurface geological, geochemical, Geophysical data along with resource data (resource, average grade, cut-off, strike length, depth extension already proved with the confidence level). In case of exploration proposed near the active mine area, sufficient justification should be given by collecting surface samples in suitable location which represent the mineralisation from the area proposed for current exploration work along with analytical data

Detailed description on the following titles to be made in the proposal.

1. **Block Summary**
   Physiography
   Background Geology (Regional Geology & Geology of the Block).
   Mineral potentiality based on geology, geophysics, ground geochemistry etc.
   Scope for proposed exploration
   Recommendations of G4 Stage Mineral Exploration Report.
   Objectives

2. **Previous Work**
   Attach Complete Previous Geological Report (G4 Stage); G4 and G3 stage reports for G2 stage.
   Previous Exploration in adjoining area (Regional area): All the sample (bed rock/trench/ groove/soil), borehole location should be plotted on the geological map and analytical data should be discussed briefly
   Previous Exploration details in the proposed block area All the sample (bed rock/trench/ groove/soil), borehole location should be plotted on the geological map and analytical data should be discussed briefly

3. **Block description**

Block corner points / Cardinal Points	Latitude	Longitude
A B C D E etc.		

4. **Planned Methodology**
5. **Nature Quantum and Target**
   G4 stage GR should be submitted for G3 stage proposal and G3 stage GR for G2 proposalSuccinct details of the previous stage exploration

   Nature and Quantum of work proposed

Components	G3	G2
Aerial reconnaissance	Required if not covered in previous stage	Use G3 stage work
Geological Survey	RF 1:5,000/2,000	Use G3 stage 1:2,000 maps
Geochemical Survey	Geochemical sampling (Chip/Channel/Pit/Trench/Core/Soil)	Detailed Geochemical sampling Channel/Pit/Trench/Core/ Soil) insystematic manner
Geophysical Survey	Detailed ground geophysical work, borehole geophysical logging. (Refer another table below)	Borehole geophysical logging Special geophysical traverses for problem solving, if required (Refer another table below)
Pitting/ Trenching	Pitting/ trenching to expose mineralized zone	Refine: Systematic pitting and trenching at regular interval along each borehole profile for surface/ subsurface correlation, resource calculation and also to define the ore

		body in soil covered area
Scout drilling / Systematic drilling OnlySystematic drilling	Refer – another table below	Refer – another table below
Grab and Chip sampling	Systematic sampling of few representative samples to be subjected to Davis tube recovery test in case of BMQ	Refine Sampling: Systematic sampling
Petrographic and mineragraphic studies	Rocks of the deposit (host rock for mineralisation), alterations connected with mineralisation, target mineral phases (ore and gaunge metal/mineral), paragenesis, primary secondary zones	Petrographic character of rocks including grain size, texture, controls of mineralisation etc.
Synthesis of all available data **Not required in the quantum of work**	i) Integration of regional/ detailed geophysical, geological and geochemical data, if not done earlier. (should be given in soft copy in shape file) ii) Synthesis of all available data and Report writing	i) Integration of detailed geophysical, geological and geochemical data, if not done earlier. (should be given in soft copy in shape file) ii) Synthesis of all available data and Report writing

Borehole spacing (As per MEMC, 2015)

Type of deposit	**Bedded Stratiform and Tabular deposit of regular habit (Minerals to be identified)**	**Bedded stratiform and tabular deposits of irregular habit (Minerals to be identified)**	**Lenticular bodies occurring en echelon Lenses, pockets. (Different minerals)**
G3 Stage	800 m to 400 m	400 m or closer	Borehole spacing along strike may be kept 200-100 m or closer interval
G2 Stage	200 m or closer	200 m to 100 m or closer	Borehole spacing along strike may be kept 100-50 m or closer
Remarks	i) For shallow surficial deposits continuing to a depth of up to 6 m from surface pitting in grid spacing for various levels of prospecting may suffice. For deposits continuing further in depth drilling is recommended. ii) Abiotic geo-environmental studies, Geo-technical studies and bulk Beneficiation studies	i) For shallow surficial deposits continuing to a depth of up to 6 m from surface pitting in grid spacing for various levels of prospecting may suffice. For deposits continuing further in depth drilling is recommended. ii) Abiotic geo-environmental studies, Geo-technical studies and bulk Beneficiation studies to be conducted at G2 stage. iii) 10% internal check samples of drill cores is	i) Exploratory mine openings-open pit or underground with bulk determination of grades wherever necessary at G2 stage. ii) Abiotic geo-environmental studies, Geo-technical studies and bulk Beneficiation studies to be conducted at G2 stage. iii) 10% internal check samples of drill cores is recommended at G2 stage.

	to be conducted at G2 stage. iii) 10% internal check samples of drill cores is recommended at G2 stage. iv) 5% external check samples of drill cores is recommended at G2 stage.	recommended at G2 stage. iv) 5% external check samples of drill cores is recommended at G2 stage.	iv) 5% external check samples of drill cores is recommended at G2 stage.
	(Vertical depth of intersection of mineralised zone for different level boreholes should be specified, number of boreholes (first, second, third), borehole spacing, approximate length of different level of boreholesmay also be specified)		

Geophysical Studies

General specifications of geophysical studies for various commodities is practiced by GSI are as below, however, the parameters likely to vary depending on the local geological set-up and nature and behaviour of ore body.

Commodity	Parameters	Technique	G3 stage (Preliminary Exploration)	G2 stage (General Exploration)
Chromite	Method	Gravity	1-0.5 km grid / 500-200 m	Along traverses at 50-20 m Station interval
	Spacing			
	Method	Magnetic	1-0.5 km grid / 500-200 m	Along traverses at 50-20 m Station interval
	Spacing			
Manganese	Method	Gravity	1-0.5 km grid / 500-200 m	Along traverses at 50-20 m Station interval
	Spacing			
	Method	Magnetic Resistivity	1-0.5 km grid / 500-200 m	Along traverses at 50-20 m Station interval
	Spacing			
Basemetals	Method	Gravity	200 m-500 m grid / 200-100 m	----
	Spacing			
	Method	Magnetic	200 m-500 m grid / 200-100 m	-----
	Spacing			
	Method	Electrical, IP, SP, Resistivity	Profiles as per objective	
	Spacing			
	Method	Seismic	Profiles as per objective	
Iron Ore	Method	Magnetic Gravity	200 m-1 km grid, Semi Regional 500-200 m	50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
REE & RM	Method	Gravity	200 m-1 km grid, Semi Regional 500-200 m	50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
	Method	Resistivity	200 m-1 km grid, Semi Regional 500-200 m	Traversing, 50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
	Method	Radiometric	200 m-1 km grid, Semi Regional 500-200 m	Traversing, 50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
Gold/ PGE & Ni/ Basemetals	Method	IP / Resistivity	Traversing, 100 m-200 m (50-25 m) traverse interval, 10-20 m (3-5 m) station interval	Traversing, 50 m-100 m (25 m or lesser) traverse interval, 10-20 m (3-5 m or closer) station interval
	Spacing			
	Method	Magnetic	Traversing, 100 m-200 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval	Traversing, 50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
	Method 3	SP	Traversing, 100 m-200 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval	Traversing, 50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
Graphite	Method	SP	Traversing, 100 m-200 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval	Traversing, 50m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			
	Method	Magnetic	Traversing, 100 m-200 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval	Traversing, 50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
	Spacing			

	Method Spacing	Resistivity	Traversing, 100 m-200 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval	Traversing, 50 m-100 m traverse interval, 10-20 m station interval
Diamond	Method Spacing	Gravity	Random grid, 1 km – 500 m / 500-200 m	Traversing, 50 m-100 m Traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Method Spacing	Magnetic	Random grid, 1 km – 500 m / 500-200 m	Traversing, 50 m-100 m Traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
	Method Spacing	Resistivity	Random grid, 1 km – 500 m / 500-200 m	Traversing, 50 m-100 m Traverse interval, 10-20 m Station interval
Gemstone	Method Spacing	Methods, profiles, spacing will be as per the nature of host rocks		
Potash and Phosphorite	Method Spacing	Methods, profiles, spacing will be as per the nature and association of these deposits. Seismic /2D Seismic / 3D Seismic/Radiomtric survey		
Tin, Tungsten and Molybdenum	Method	Methods, profiles, spacing will be as per the nature of host rocks and nature of these deposits To delineate the shear zones & lithological boundaries		

Note: if further refinement or closer interval data is required at G2 stage exploration it will be decide based on the inference made from G3 stage exploration with proper justification.

6. **Exploratory Drilling** (Refer another document on exploratory drilling)
7. **Manpower deployment**
8. **Break-up of expenditure**
9. **References**

List of Plates

Plate 1: Geological map on 1:50K and 1:25K/ 12.5K/ 10K with location index.
Plate 2: Geochemical map/s on 1:50K and 1:25K/ 12.5K/ 10K. (any other sample data collected in random or local grid may be plotted over geological map)
Plate 3: Ground geophysical map/s (NGPM) on 1:50K and 1:25K/ 12.5K/ 10K.
Plate 4: Aeromagnetic map/s.
Plate 5: Proposed block boundary over existing Geological map.
Plate 6: Proposed Borehole Location Map.
Plate 7: Tentative Geological Borehole Sections.
Plate 8: Proposed block boundary over land use/ Accessibility map
Plate 9: Proposed block boundary over topographic map on 1:50,000.

Any other relevant plates.

Annexure- 6

Scheme for Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration

1. Background:

1.1 The National Mineral Exploration Policy (NMEP), 2016 envisages private sector participation in mineral exploration and to facilitate, encourage and incentivize private sector participation in all spheres of mineral exploration to harness the technical expertise, technological capability and the financial resources of the private sector to discover and exploit the country's vast mineral resources. It also envisages incentive for exploration agencies to mitigate their risk for exploration works.

1.2 Recent amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) in 2021 has empowered the Central Government to notify private sector entities to undertake prospecting operations. The involvement of notified private sector exploration agencies (PEAs) shall provide an impetus to the exploration activities in the country and shall enable identification of more blocks suitable for auction. Ministry of Mines in association with QCI-NABET has launched a scheme for accreditation of PEAs in mineral sector. The guidelines issued on 12th August, 2021 by Ministry of Mines provides that upon accreditation from QCI-NABET, the PEAs may apply to Ministry of Mines for their notification under the second proviso to of section 4(1) of the MMDR Act. The guidelines also provided that PEAs will be notified under the following two categories having right to undertake prospecting operations in respect of the mineral deposits as specified below against each category:

Category of exploration agency	Type of mineral deposit
Category A Exploration Agencies	(a) Bedded Stratiform & Tabular deposits (b) Lenticular composite veins (c) Gem-Stone and rare metal pegmatite, reefs and veins/pipes (d) Float & Placer deposits (e) Deep Seated deposits
Category B Exploration Agencies	(a) Bedded Stratiform & Tabular deposits (b) Float & placer deposits

1.3 In furtherance of NMEP, 2016; recent amendments in the MMDR Act and scheme of accreditation and notification of PEAs, the instant scheme has been formulated for engagement of Notified PEAs in exploration of major minerals by the State Governments.

2. Objective:

2.1 The objective of the Scheme is to lay down the mechanism for engagement of Notified PEAs in mineral exploration and enable funding of these operations by such Notified PEAs through National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) or State Governments, as the case may be.

3. Procedure for Engagement of Notified PEAs by State Governments and their Funding:

3.1.1 General Conditions

(i) The present scheme is applicable for exploration of minerals other than minor minerals, mineral oils and minerals listed in Part-A and Part-B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act.

(ii) Exploration operations shall be undertaken in accordance with the provisions regarding such operations in the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules, 2015, the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 (MCDR), the Guidelines for notification of accredited private exploration agencies issued by Ministry of Mines on 12th August, 2021 and any other applicable law for the time being in force.

(iii) Notified PEAs shall undertake exploration in respect of the category of minerals and mineral deposits under which it has been notified.

(iv) Approval for exploration to Notified PEAs or their funding from NMET or State Governments shall not confer any right on the Notified PEAs for grant of any mineral concession in the area explored. The mineral concession (composite licence, mining lease, etc.) in such explored area shall be granted in accordance with the provision of the MMDR Act and rules made thereunder. A Notified PEA shall not be allowed to participate in auction of mineral concession over the block or a part thereof which has been explored by such Notified PEA.

(v) The notified PEAs undertaking exploration shall submit the yearly report and final geological report to the State Government and Reginal Controller or the authorised officer of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) in accordance with rule 9 of MCDR, 2017. A copy of the said reports shall also be submitted to NMET.

3.2 Mode of Engagement of Notified PEAs by the State Governments and their Funding:

The engagement of Notified PEAs by the State Governments and their Funding may be done under the following modes:

3.2.1 Mode A: Mineral Exploration Projects formulated by Private Exploration Agency (PEA) and funding by NMET

(i) A Notified PEA may select the area for exploration based on available geoscience data and submit an application in respect of the same to the State Government. The geoscience data may be accessed from Geological Survey of India's baseline geoscience database available free of cost in the OCBIS/Bhukosh portal, database of other government or private agencies, etc.

(ii) A Notified PEA may submit an application outlining the details of the area, mineral commodities etc. it proposes for undertaking exploration to the State Government in the format specified in Schedule to this Scheme.

(iii) The State Government shall examine the application and grant its 'in principle' approval or reject the same within one month of the receipt of the application.

(iv) Upon grant of 'in principle' approval, the Notified PEA shall prepare and submit the exploration proposal to the State Government containing the scheme of reconnaissance or prospecting in the format prescribed by NMET.

(v) The State Government shall, after examination of the proposal and if acceptable, forward the same to the NMET for funding of exploration operations through NMET.

(vi) The proposals submitted to NMET shall be evaluated and approved as per the prescribed procedure of NMET and the concerned Notified PEA will be responsible for defending the proposal before the NMET.

(vii) NMET shall issue the sanction order to the State Government and all advances and payments shall be made by NMET to the State Government directly. The State Government, in turn, will get the work executed through the notified PEA that had submitted the relevant exploration proposal and make payments to the PEA for such purpose. The State Government shall submit the utilization certificate to NMET periodically in the manner as specified by NMET.

(viii) The notified PEAs shall submit periodic report(s), as specified by NMET, to NMET and the State Government.

(ix) The State Government shall technically evaluate the geological report and decide about the potential mineral blocks which can further be taken up for auction. The State Government shall put the block for auction as per the procedure prescribed in the Mineral (Auction) rules 2015 for grant of composite licence or mining lease, as the case may be. The State Government shall mention the name of Notified PEA who has prepared the Geological Report in the tender document.

3.2.2 Mode B: Mineral Exploration Projects formulated by State Government and funding by NMET

(i) At present, the State Governments formulate mineral exploration proposals on its own by analysing the available baseline geoscience data and request funding from NMET. The State Governments execute these proposals directly through State's Department of Geology and Mining (DGM) by employing the departmental manpower and by outsourcing all or some of the components of the project or through Central or State PSUs.

(ii) In such case, the State Government may also engage a notified PEA by selecting it through limited tender amongst all the Notified PEAs for undertaking entire work from exploration up to preparation of final geological report. Further, in cases where the State Government decides to outsource all or some of the components of the project, the Notified PEAs may also be allowed to participate in selection process for the same.

(iii) The Notified PEAs shall follow the conditions prescribed in this scheme for undertaking exploration operations.

3.2.3 Mode C: Mineral Exploration Projects formulated by State Government and funding by State Government

The State Government may engage Notified PEAs in the projects funded by it in the manner prescribed under Mode A and Mode B.

FORMAT FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSAL FOR UNDERTAKING EXPLORATION

To,
The Director,
Mining and Geology Department,
Government of ___ [*mention name of State Government*]

Madam/ Sir,

I/we am/are submitting the following details for granting 'in-principle' approval of the State Government for submitting the scheme of reconnaissance or prospecting to NMET under Mode-A of the Scheme for Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration issued by Ministry of Mines vide order No. _____ dated _____.

1. Name and Address of the Applicant

(a)	Name:	
(b)	Postal address:	
(c)	Telephone Number (Office):	
(d)	Fax number (Office):	
(e)	Mobile No.:	
(f)	Telephone Number (Residence):	
(g)	E-Mail address:	

2. Details of Accreditation as Private Exploration Agency and Notification under the proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMDR Act

(a)	Date of accreditation granted by QCI-NABET:	
(b)	Date of expiry of accreditation:	
(c)	Date of Notification under the proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMDR Act:	
(d)	Date of expiry of Notification:	
(e)	Category of the exploration Agency (Category A or B) under Notification:	

3. Location Details of the Area Proposed

(a)	**State**	
(b)	District (s)	
(c)	Nearby Village(s)	
(d)	Survey of India (SOI) Toposheet (s) No.	
(e)	Area in sq. km.	
(f)	Boundary coordinates of the proposed block (in Decimal degree)	

4. Mineral Potential of the Area

(a)	Name of Mineral(s) identified/ expected in the area/ block	
(b)	Basis on which mineral potential in the area has been identified	
(c)	List of documents and references relied upon in support of item (b) above.	

5. Documents to be enclosed with the application

(i) Location of the proposed block demarcated on Survey of India (SOI) Toposheet No.
(ii) Documents mentioned in item 4(c) above.

Place:
Date:

Signature of Applicant