Only through e-mail

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F.No.6/2/2015-NMET-Part(1)

New Delhi, 19th June, 2023

Subject: Circulation of minutes of 30th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 6th June, 2023.

Please find enclosed the minutes of 30th meeting of Executive Committee of NMET held on 6th June, 2023 for your kind perusal.

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

[Vivek Kumar Sharma]
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, 2" Floor, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.
7. The Principal Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Mantralaya, Vallabh Bhawan, Bhopal- 462004.
8. The Principal Secretary, Industries, Energy and Labour Dept. 114 Annex Building Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400032.
9. The Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Mines and Petroleum Main Building Secretariat, Jaipur- 302005.
10. The Additional Chief Secretary, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Dept. Industries Department Secretariat, Chennai- 600009.
11. Shri Alok Sharma, (Retd.) GM & HoD (Exploration), CMPDIL, 402, Lake Garden, Kanke Road, Ranchi- 834008.
12. Shri Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Business Development & Planning) (Retd.), MECL, 109, KT Nagar, Katol Road, Nagpur- 440013.

13. Dr. Yamuna Singh, Scientist-H, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (Retd.), Flat G-7, Block G, Rainbow Vistas Rock Garden, Opp- IDL, Green Hills Road, Sanathnagar PO, Moosapet, Hyderabad- 500018.

14. Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat, Dy. Director General (Retd.), Geological Survey of India, 695 Shanti Nagar (Road No-3), Near Durgapura Railway Station, Durgapura, Jaipur- 302018.

15. Dr. Sahendra Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Geology, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad- 826004.

Copy to:

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

Copy to:

1. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Assam.
4. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Bihar.
5. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Chhattisgarh.
6. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Gujarat.
8. The Director, Department of Industries, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
10. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka.
12. The Director, Directorate of Mining and Geology, Government of Kerala.
13. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
14. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Director, Directorate of Geology, Government of Odisha.
18. The Director, Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of Punjab.
19. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan.
20. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu.
21. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana.
22. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Director, Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of West Bengal.
25. The Director, Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Government of Ladakh.
26. The Director, Department of Mines, Minerals and Geology, Government of Sikkim
27. The Director, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura
28. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mineral Resource, Government of Mizoram.
29. The Director, Department of Trade, Commerce and Industries, Government of Manipur.
30. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana.

Copy to:

1. The Additional Director General and Chairman, TCC-NMET, Southern Region, GSI Complex, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad-500068.
2. The Director, AMD, Department of Atomic Energy, AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016.

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 Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation, OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751 001.

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary/PPS to AS(SL)/PS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
2. Shri Janardan Prasad, ADG & HoD, SR & Chairman TCC-NMET, GSI Complex, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad- 500068.

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

Minutes of the 30th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 06th June, 2023

The 30th meeting of the Executive Committee (EC) of NMET was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Secretary (Mines) on 06th June, 2023 at Geological Survey of India (GSI), Central Headquarters, Kolkata in hybrid mode. The list of participants is given in **Annexure-1.**

Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Mines and Member Secretary, EC welcomed all the participants in the meeting.

Shri Vivek Kumar Sharma, Director & HoD, NMET presented the agenda points for the meeting. The details of the agenda points discussed and decisions taken in the meeting are given below:

1. Approval of minutes of 29th meeting of EC held on 31st March, 2023.

The minutes of the 29th EC meeting held on 31st March, 2023 were circulated on 11th April, 2023. No comments were received from the members.

Decision of EC: EC approved the minutes of the 29th meeting of EC held on 31st March, 2023.

2. Action Taken Report (ATR) for minutes of 29th EC meeting held on 31st March, 2023.

Shri Vivek Sharma, Director & HoD, NMET presented the ATR on minutes of the 29th meeting of EC held on 31st March, 2023. EC was informed that necessary action has been taken on decisions of the minutes of 29th EC meeting .The details of action taken report are given in **Annexure-2.**

Secretary, Mines appreciated NMET for the prompt steps taken to handhold the States in facilitating procurement of machinery/ laboratory equipment/instrument with financial assistance through NMET fund through a workshop.

Decision of EC: EC accepted the action taken reports on minutes of 29th meeting of EC held on 31st March, 2023.

3. Reconstitution of the Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET)

Since Chairman, TCC has taken the charge of Director General, GSI, and has become the member of EC, the need for reconstitution of TCC has arisen. Accordingly, Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru has been nominated as the Chairman, TCC. Further, Dr. S.K. Kulshrestha, Deputy Director General & RMH-III, NER,

GSI, Shillong has been nominated as Member TCC in-place of Sh. M.K. Patel (Dy.D.G. & RMH-II, GSI, ER, Kolkata).

Decision of EC: EC noted the nomination of Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru as Chairman, TCC and Dr. S.K. Kulshrestha, Deputy Director General & RMH-III, NER, GSI, Shillong as Member, TCC.

4. Approval on escalation in base rate for National Geophysical Mapping Programme (NGPM)

Geological Survey of India (GSI) had engaged Mineral Exploration Consultancy Limited (MECL) for carrying out Ground Gravity and Magnetic Survey and Processing of 30 toposheets (8400 observations) at a cost of ₹4000 per point amounting to ₹3,96,48,000/- (Rupees Three Crore Ninety Six lakh Forty Eight Thousand only) including GST . Later, CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad was engaged by GSI for carrying out Ground Gravity and Magnetic Survey, Processing and Technical Report under NGPM project at per point rate of ₹4,500 + GST (Rupees Four Thousand Five Hundred + GST) .

MECL requested GSI for revision of rates at par with CSIR-NGRI. Accordingly, GSI, Southern Region sought approval of NMET for providing the escalated rates to MECL at per point rate of ₹ 4,500 + GST. EC was informed that the charges for Gravity-Magnetic method is ₹4500 per station in the Schedule of Charges (SoC) of NMET.

Discussion: EC approved escalation of per point base rate from ₹4,000+18% GST to **₹4,500+18% GST** to Mineral Exploration Consultancy Limited (MECL) for carrying out Ground Gravity Magnetic Survey under NGPM programme.

(Action: NMET)

5. Ratification of proposal on Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey over Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) Block 5.

NMET had sanctioned Aero-geophysical Survey over OGP Block-5 at a cost of ₹ 36,44,84,605/- (Rupees Thirty Six Crore Forty-Four Lakh Eighty-Four Thousand Six Hundred and Five Only) on 20th August 2018.

Later, GSI sought revised administrative approval and financial sanction from Ministry of Mines for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Block-5. Ministry of Mines conveyed administrative approval and financial sanction for incurring an expenditure of USD 68,35,603.12 (USD Sixty Eight Lakh Thirty Five thousand Six Hundred and Three Only) inclusive of 18% GST, for carrying out Aero-Geophysical survey in NAGMP Block-5 by engaging Consortium of M/s Sander Geophysics Ltd. & M/s Pan India Ltd., the L1 bidder, through funding from National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) for aero-geophysical survey over OGP Block-5 subject to the approval of the Executive Committee and Governing Body of NMET.

Keeping the above in view, Secretary, Mines & Chairman, Executive Committee of NMET approved financial sanction of USD 68,35,603.12 (USD Sixty Eight Lakh Thirty Five thousand Six Hundred and Three Only) including 18% GST for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Block-5 from NMET fund on 27.04.2023 in the interest of early start of work of this critical National project.

Decision of EC: EC ratified financial sanction of USD 68,35,603.12 (USD Sixty-Eight Lakh Thirty- Five thousand Six Hundred and Three Only) including 18% GST for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Block-5 from NMET fund.

6. Approval of proposal on Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey over Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) Blocks 9

Financial sanction for carrying out Multisensor Aero-geophysical Survey over OGP Block 9 with sanctioned cost of ₹ 29,13,47,277 (₹ Twenty Nine Crore Thirteen Lakh Forty Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy-Seven only) was given to GSI for area of 71,132 Sq. Km (2,60,817 Line Km) on 20.08.2018.

On the request of GSI, Ministry of Mines accorded administrative approval for re-tendering of NAGMP OGP Block 9 with revised estimated cost of ₹ 43,92,19,015/- (Rupees Forty Three Crore Ninety Two Lakh Nineteen Thousand Fifteen only) on 09.05.2023. On re-tendering, the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) recommended to award the contact to the lowest bidder (L1) at a cost of ₹ 41,86,86,844/- (Forty-One Crore Eighty-Six Lakh Eighty-Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Four only).This was approved by DG, GSI.

In view of the above, financial sanction is sought from NMET for ₹ 41,86,86,844 (Rupees Forty One Crore Eighty Six Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Four only) inclusive of GST for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Blocks 9 covering area of 2,60,817 Line Km.

Decision of EC: EC accorded financial sanction of ₹ 41,86,86,844 (Rupees Forty One Crore Eighty Six Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Four only) inclusive of GST for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Block 9 covering area of 2,60,817 Line Km.

(Action: NMET)

Agenda 7: Approval of proposal on Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey over Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) Blocks 10 and 12

Financial sanction for carrying out Aero-geophysical Survey over OGP blocks 10 and 12 with approved cost ₹ 38,54,59,345 (₹ Thirty-Eight Crore Fifty Four Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Three Hundred and Forty Five only) and ₹15,59,70,432 (Rupees Fifteen Crore Fifty Nine Lakh Seventy Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty-Two only) respectively was given to GSI on 20.08.2018.

On the request of GSI for re-tendering of NAGMP OGP Block 10 & 12 with revised estimated costs ₹ 81,56,49,373/- (Rupees Eighty One Crore Fifty Six Lakh forty Nine Thousand Three hundred Seventy three only) Ministry of Mines had accorded the administrative approval vide letter dated 17.01.2023.

Further, the area for Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey over OGP block 10 has been reduced from 3,36,604 Line Km to 2,34,300 Line Km on the request of Odisha Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (OMECL) during re-tendering. Director (Tech.) Ministry of

Mines through email dated 24.04.2023 requested NMET to process the proposals for Block 10 & 12 for financial sanction of ₹ 52,76,14,391/- (Rupees Fifty Two Crore Seventy Six Lakh Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety One only).

In view of the above, financial sanction is sought for ₹ 52,76,14,391/- (Rupees Fifty Two Crore Seventy Six Lakh Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety-One only) inclusive of GST for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Blocks 10 & 12 covering revised area of 3,58,057 Line Km.

Decision of EC: EC accorded financial sanction of ₹ 52,76,14,391/- (Rupees Fifty Two Crore Seventy Six Lakh Fourteen Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety-One only) inclusive of GST for carrying out aero-geophysical survey over OGP Blocks 10 & 12 covering revised area of 3,58,057 Line Km.

(Action: NMET)

8. Approval of Additional Cost of Rs. 57,36,323/- for "Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) for Potash in Bharusari North Block (10 sq.km.), North-western Part of Rajasthan, District: Hanumangarh, Rajasthan. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

The project was approved in 29th EC meeting with an estimated cost of ₹ 739.70 lakhs with a timeline of 06 months to MECL. The 52nd TCC meeting considered the proposal for additional cost of ₹57,36,323/- (Rupees Fifty Seven Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Three Hundred Three only) to accomplish the project within the timeline of 06 months by putting an additional drilling rig.

TCC recommended the proposal to EC for approval of additional cost of ₹ 57,36 ,323/- (Total cost – 797.06 Lakh) with the condition that the additional cost will not be admissible if the project is not completed within 06 months i.e., 13.10.2023, the scheduled timeline of the project.

EC Decision: EC approved the additional cost of ₹ 57,36,323/- (Rupees Fifty Seven Lakh Thirty Six Thousand Three Hundred Three only) with the condition that the additional cost will not be admissible if the project is not completed within 06 months i.e. 13.10.2023.

(Action: NMET)

9. Net Present Value (NPV) for Forest Clearance for Boreholes in Pindra SW extension block (40.0 sq. km), District: Satna, Madhya Pradesh. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

MECL has requested ₹ 9,82,872/- towards Net Present Value (NPV) for obtaining forest clearance from MoEF&CC for the project, " Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for glauconitic sandstone in Pindra SW extension block (40.0 sq. km), District: Satna, Madhya Pradesh." approved in 27th meeting of EC with an estimated cost of 117.43 Lakh within a time period of 12 months.

Considering, NPV being a statutory requirement as per notification issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) dated 17th November, 2020 for grant of forest permission for exploration in forest area, TCC recommended approval of ₹ 9,82,872/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Two only) towards NPV for obtaining forest permission to carry out exploration work from NMET fund in addition to the cost of exploration already approved in 27th EC meeting.

Decision of EC: EC approved ₹ 9,82,872/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Two only) towards NPV for forest clearance from NMET fund in addition to cost of exploration already approved for "Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for glauconitic sandstone in Pindra SW extension block (40.0 sq. km), District: Satna, Madhya Pradesh."

(Action: NMET)

10. Cancellation of Project Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Diamond in Tumla Block, District Jashpur, Chhattisgarh. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

The project was approved in 23rd meeting of EC with an estimated cost of 493.66 Lakhs within a time period of 12 months. Accordingly, the sanction order was issued on 25th March 2022. MECL conveyed that the exploration work in Tumla block was held-up due to local agitation just few days after commencement on 02.04.2022. The situation remained unresolved even after interactions with local authorities. Therefore, MECL requested for withdrawal of the approval of Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Diamond in Tumla Block, District Jashpur, Chhattisgarh and submitted a bill of ₹8,73,710/- for settlement.

In view of the above TCC committee recommended cancellation of the project without any financial implication on NMET. EC directed MECL to submit a report before closing the project and share data acquired in the project with NMET. The balance advance released may be refunded to NMET with interest accrued on the sanctioned amount of 1st instalment, if any.

Decision of EC: EC approved cancellation of the project, "Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Diamond in Tumla Block, District Jashpur, Chhattisgarh" and instructed that the balance funds after settlement of the bills raised, must be refunded to NMET with interest accrued on funds released towards 1st instalment, if any.

(Action: NMET/MECL)

11. Additional cost approval for Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Manganese in Hardatal Block, District- Bolangir, Odisha. [Implementing Agency: DGM, Odisha]

The project "Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Manganese in Hardatal Block, District-Bolangir, Odisha" was approved in 25th EC held on 29th June, 2022 with an estimated cost of ₹152.37 lakh within a time period of 9 months. DGM Odisha in 53rd meeting had conveyed that additional 67 m drilling is required for completion of ongoing 4 bhs.

TCC committee recommended drilling of 60m with an approved cost of ₹ 6,90,000/- for completion of 4 running boreholes.

Decision of EC: EC approved Financial sanction of ₹ 6,90,000/- (Rupees Six Lakh Ninety Thousand only) for carrying out additional drilling of 60m for the project Preliminary Exploration (G -3 Stage) for Manganese in Hardatal Block, District- Bolangir, Odisha.

(Action: NMET)

12. Revision of Cost for Preliminary exploration (G3) for Limestone in Itga blocks, District: Kalaburagi, Karnataka [Implementing Agency: DGM, Karnataka].

The project "Preliminary exploration (G3) for limestone in Itga blocks, District: Kalaburagi, Karnataka" was recommended in 49th TCC meeting and was approved in 28th EC meeting with an estimated cost of 125 lakh for time period of 12 months.

DMG Karnataka conveyed that they have engaged skilled manpower on outsource basis to carry out DGPS and topographic survey using instruments available in the Directorate. Hence, DMG Karnataka would take up the exploration work in-house.

In view of the above, the committee recommended the survey work through in-house resources with modified cost of the project from **₹ 125 lakhs** to **₹125.50 lakhs** (without any time extension) for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved revised financial sanction of **₹125.50 Lakh** for limestone exploration in Itga Blocks without any time extension.

(Action: NMET)

Agenda 13: Penalty to be imposed on Exploration Agencies for delay in execution of Projects.

As per the recommendations of Chairman, EC in the 29th EC meeting, TCC proposed penalty of 1% for every delayed month subject to a maximum penalty of 5% of the approved project cost. However, projects delayed due to delay in receiving the forest clearance, administrative issues and local law & order issues was to be exempted.

On examination of the recommendation of TCC, the following was proposed to EC:

1. 0.5% penalty (of the approved project cost) per month for delay of up to 12 months.
2. 1% penalty (of the approved project cost) per month beyond 12 months subject to a maximum of 10%.
3. TCC will examine whether the project is delayed for reasons beyond the control of EAs or not and recommend the proposals to EC whether penalty is to be imposed or not.
4. The provision of penalty will not be applicable to GSI, IBM, DMGs. It will apply to MECL/ CMPDI/ Other PSUs and NPEAs.

EC suggested that penalty need to be applicable to all the exploration agencies including GSI, IBM, DGMs, PSUs, etc. Chairman, EC was of the opinions that, accountability of the officers need to be fixed as public funds are involved. The penalty will be imposed on exploration agencies on the recommendation of the TCC.

Decision of EC: EC approved that following with regard to the delay in projects funded by NMET:

1. 0.5% penalty (of the approved project cost) per month for delay of up to 12 months.
2. 1% penalty (of the approved project cost) per month beyond 12 months subject to a maximum of 10%.
3. TCC will examine whether the project is delayed for reasons beyond the control of EAs or not and recommend the proposals to EC whether penalty is to be imposed or not.
4. Projects delayed due to delay in receiving the forest clearance, administrative issues and local law & order issues are exempted from penalty.

(Action: NMET)

14. Enhancement of Honorarium charges for Peer Reviewers.

NEAs have requested that the Honorarium charges to peer reviewers for peer review of the geological report may be increased from ₹ 10,000 to ₹ 30,000, as at least 7 days are required for reviewing a project report by the reviewer.

TCC in its 53rd meeting unanimously recommended the request to EC for consideration.

Decision of EC: EC accorded approval of payment of **₹30,000 (Rupees Thirty Thousand only)** as Honorarium for peer review of final reports reviewed after 06.06.2023 even if the projects were sanctioned earlier.

(Action: NMET)

15. Approval of additional item in comprehensive list for the procurement of machinery/ laboratory equipment/instrument for financial assistance through NMET fund to State DGMs/DMGs

NMET vide letter F. No. 6/9/2015-NMET/294 dated 23.3.2022 and F. No. 6/9/2015-NMET/71 dated 8.6.2022 conveyed to all State DGMs/DMGs that proposals on strengthening of technical infrastructure of State DGMs/DMGs will be considered by NMET for financial assistance.

NMET had approved 36 items recommended by Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) for procurement related to mineral exploration activities in its 27th EC meeting held on 10.01.2023. On the request of State Governments, TCC in its 52nd meeting recommended following 19 items in addition to earlier approved 36 items.

A	**Chemical Laboratory**
1	Water Analyzer Kit (Ph, DO conductivity, Salinity)
2	UV Visible Spectrophotometer
3	Ph Meter
4	Conductivity Meter
5	Ion Selective Electrometer (for Fluoride)
6	Fume Hood

B	**Drilling Activities**
7	Truck Mounted Hydrostatic Rig 300m/600m/1000m
8	Casing 50%
9	Core Barrel NQ-5 nos. & Core Barrel HQ-10 nos.
10	Tripod /Derrick with accessories
11	Tractor Mounted Rig
12	Diamond Core Bit HQ, PQ, NQ – 25 nos.
C	**Geophysical Activities**
13	IP Resistivity 5 K.W
14	Multi Electrode-IP resistivity (shallow depth - 3 KW)
15	Multi-Parameter Logger
16	Magnetometer
17	Gama Ray Spectrometer
18	Digital Resistivity Potential Meter (DRPM)
D	**Software**
19	Geovia SURPAC

The TCC Committee opined that due process of procurement as per extant Government of India Financial Rules be followed by all the State Governments in consent with the Competent Authority of the Department/ Administrative Ministry/ IFD, Ministry of Mines/State Financial Wing (Department) as applicable.

Decision of EC: EC approved the list of 19 additional instruments/ equipment/ software for providing financial assistance to State DGMs/DMGs.

(Action: NMET)

16. Modification in Schedule of Charges (SoC) of NMET for inclusion of the plastic core boxes in Drill Core Preservation

Director General, GSI vide letter 13/DG GSI/2023 dated 24.04.2023 has stated that, every year GSI drills about 1,50,000 m of drill cores. Similarly, MECL, CMPDI and other exploration agencies cumulatively drill over 4,00,000 m of drill cores per year. The drill cores are being stored in metallic core boxes made of tin/ aluminium, etc., which are affected by wear and tear in the long run. The metallic core boxes in India on an average cost ₹ 1000-1500 per piece. However, good quality durable and sustainable plastic core boxes are also available in the Indian market (GeM) from various indigenous agencies, priced about ₹ 800-1000 per piece, which costs less than the available metallic core boxes.

DG, GSI has recommended that all NMET funded drilling projects should encourage using plastic core box products in place of metallic core boxes, while preserving the drilled cores for core libraries used for future analysis.

The Schedule of Charges (SoC) of NMET has provision for Drill Core Preservation (Para 5.3) which includes cost of GI Core Boxes, transportation charges, loading and unloading charges and manpower engaged in execution of work.

It is proposed that the para 5.3 may be modified for inclusion of Plastic core boxes along with GI Core boxes. Further, the implementing agencies may be asked to ensure that the GI/Plastic core boxes are durable and of good quality.

Therefore approval of EC is sought to replace the existing Para 5.3 of SoC given below:

S.No.	Work/Activity	Unit	Charges/Cost (in ₹)
5.3	**Drill Core Preservation** One complete borehole plus mineralised cores of all the BHs of the Block/Prospect to be preserved in GI Core boxes and subsequently transported to the notified Core Repository. (It includes cost of GI Core boxes, transportation charges, loading and unloading charges and manpower engaged in execution of the work). (As far as possible exploratory drilling guidelines for NMET funded projects will be followed, however, the decision of TCC, NMET will be final)	**Per m**	**1,590 per m**

Revised Para 5.3 as proposed below:

S.No.	Work/Activity	Unit	Charges/Cost (₹)
5.3	**Drill Core Preservation** One complete borehole plus mineralised cores of all the BHs of the Block/Prospect to be preserved in **GI/ Plastic Coreboxes** and subsequently transported to the notified Core Repository. (It includes cost of **GI/ Plastic Core boxes**, transportation charges, loading and unloading charges and manpower engaged in execution of the work). **The implementing agencies will ensure quality and durability of GI/Plastic Core boxes.** (As far as possible exploratory drilling guidelines for NMET funded projects will be followed, however, the decision of TCC, NMET will be final)	**Per m**	**1,590 per m**

Decision: EC approved the Revised Para 5.3 as proposed above.

(Action: NMET)

17. Approval of new project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) in its 52nd and 53rd Meeting.

Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the details of projects recommended for approval of EC **(Annexure-3)**. He informed that TCC in its 52nd meeting & 53rd TCC meeting reviewed 32 new projects, out of which 17 new projects were recommended for approval of EC. These 17 projects include 2 projects of CMPDI, 5 projects of MECL, 1 project of KIOCL, 1 project

of DGM Arunachal Pradesh, 8 projects of NPEAs submitted by respective State Governments.

The detailed discussion and EC decision for project proposals recommended for approval of EC are as follows:

17.1 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Magnetite and associated minerals in Pipradih area, Giridih District, Jharkhand (Block area- 7 sq. km. [Implementing agency-CMPDI]

&

17.2 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in the Bangala Pat Block District - Lohardaga, Jharkhand (Block area- 1.9 sq. km.) [Implementing agency-CMPDI]

Discussion: TCC recommended the projects, mentioned at para 17.1 & 17.2, for approval of EC subject to submission of consent letter from State Government which is yet to be received.

Executive Committee of NMET observed that consent letter from the State is necessary for consideration of both projects.

EC decision: EC deferred the projects and directed to resubmit the proposals in next EC meeting after obtaining consent letter from State.

(Action: NMET)

17.3 Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Pipariya-Nayakheda Block and Simariyakalan-Baheriya Block (10 sq. Km.), District: Narasingpur, Madhya Pradesh. [Implementing agency-MECL]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that 7 samples were collected by MECL. The analysis of samples indicate CaO ranges from 39% to 54%, MgO ranges from 0.28% to 1.96%, SiO_2 ranges 1.42% to 4.79%. The analysis of sample indicates limestone to be of cement grade with dolomitic bands. He further informed that the project will be completed after 4 months.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 116.50 Lakh** with timeline of **08 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.4 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Level) for Gemstones in Neelam Khan area, Kishtwar District, J&K (Total Area - 5.0 sq.km) [Implementing agency- MECL]

Discussion: TCC recommended Phase -1 of the proposal for approval of EC for Preliminary Exploration (G-3) with an estimated cost of ₹ 426.23 Lakh (including GST) in time schedule of 36 months. It was opined by the TCC committee that the Phase-2 of the proposed exploration would be considered after review of the outcome/results of Phase-1 exploration.

The working season in J&K is limited and any delay in the approval may lead to further time over -run in completion of the project. Therefore, Chairman EC approved the phase-1 of the project.

EC decision: EC ratified the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 426. 23 Lakh (Phase I)** with timeline of **36 months.**

(Action: NMET)

17.5 Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Tin in Pokhar-Chhaili Block (90.00 Sq. Km), Tehri Garwal District, Uttarakhand. [Implementing agency- MECL]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI, conveyed that MECL has informed that a total of 168 Stream Sediments samples have been collected during NGCM work. Out of these, 26 samples fall within the proposed block. 03 samples show Sn value above 100 ppm and 19 samples shows Sn values from 6 to 100 ppm. Considering that Tin is a critical mineral, TCC recommended the proposal for approval of EC.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 105.05 Lakh** with timeline of **08 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.6 Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Graphite in Ganacharpura Block (33.60 Sq. Km), Kolar District, Karnataka. [Implementing agency- MECL]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI, discussed the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that MECL has carried out field visit and analysed few surface bedrock samples which ranges the value from 5.09% to 17.52% for fixed carbon.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 92.96 Lakh** with timeline of **08 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.7 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Diamond in Angira B Block (1.5 Sq. Km), District: Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh [Implementing agency- MECL]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that TCC suggested to drill 5 inclined boreholes and 5 vertical boreholes to cover an area of 1.5 sq. km. after completion of Magnetic & Electromagnetic (TDEM) geophysical surveys and also informed that the project will be reviewed after 7 months.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 494.12 Lakh** with timeline of **15 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.8 Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Phosphorite, Baryte & REE in Katamadevarahalli Area, Kalburgi Dist., Karnataka (Block area- 100 sq.) [Implementing agency- KIOCL]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that Geologically, the proposed block falls under the Halkal Formation of the Bhima Group and GSI has also analysed some sample of P2O5 from the area gives value ranges from 6.38% to 23.9%.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 76.25 Lakh** with timeline of **08 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.9 Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Limestone and Dolomite in and Around Menga Area (26 sq.km.) of Upper Subansiri District of Arunachal Pradesh [Implementing agency- DGM Arunachal Pradesh]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that Menga limestone and dolomite exposed over a distance of approximately 8 km along the road stretch and occupies an area of approximately 20 sq km. with values of CaO ranging from 41.20% to 55% and MgO from 7.37% to 9.98% and SiO2 from 8.21% to 11.3%.

EC opined that the values of chemical analysis need to be rechecked. Further, Chairman EC also requested the State Government to auction the mineral blocks already available with the State.

EC decision: EC deferred the project and asked the State Government to speed up the auction process of blocks available with the State Government.

(Action: DGM Arunachal Pradesh)

17.10 Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron Ore in Alenga-Nendwadi Block, Gadchiroli District, Maharashtra (Block Area - 120 sq. km.) [Implementing agency- DGM Maharashtra (M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that a total of 5 Samples were collected from the proposed block which gives the value of Fe% ranges from 48% to 68% based on which TCC recommended the proposal for approval of EC.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 37.75 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.11 Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Iron Ore in Marampalli-Jinjgaon Block (90 sq.km.), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra. [Implementing Agency- DGM Maharashtra (M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of the project. He conveyed that a total of 2 samples were collected from the proposed block which gives the value of Fe% ranges from 22% to 38% based on which TCC recommended the proposal for approval of EC.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 33.26 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.12 Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron Ore in Tadgaon-Wateli Block (80 Skim.), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra [Implementing agency- DGM Maharashtra (M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that a few samples were collected from the proposed block which gives the value of Fe% ranges from 20% to 40% due to which TCC recommended the proposal for approval of EC.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 32.65 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.13 Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Iron Ore in Gilanguda-Padur Block (65 Sq.Km.), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra. [Implementing agency- DGM Maharashtra (M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that a few sample werecollected from the proposed area by implementing agency which gives the value 63.54% of Fe.

EC decision:ETC EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 26.79 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.14 Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron Ore in Murwada-Tumarikodi Block (85 Sq. Km), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra. [Implementing agency- DGM Maharashtra (M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that a few sample have been collected which shows value ranging from 59.25% to 60.41% Fe based on which TCC recommended the proposal for approval of EC.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 33.14 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.15 Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE mineralization in Kenda, Barpali, Nagpura,Chureli,Manikpur village areas (75.00 sq.km), part of T.S. No. 64J/02 of Bilaspur District, Chhattisgarh [Implementing agency- DGM, Chhattisgarh (M/s. Geoexpore Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that major part of the area is occupied by Granite Gneiss of

Chhotanagpur Gneissic complex. The concentration of Ba (1373 ppm), Rb (487 ppm), Zr (2385 ppm), Sr (465 ppm) and Ce (463ppm), is higher in the mapped area which requires further detailed investigation in the area. Therefore, TCC recommended the proposal for approval of EC.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 47.52 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.16 Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in Nawadih Block (32.04 sq.km.), District: Balrampur,State: Chhattisgarh [Implementing agency- DGM Chhattisgarh (M/s. United Exploration India Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG, GSI presented the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that the proposed block falls on Graphite schist belt. Graphite bearing mica schists have been noted as floats along the river beds within the prospect block, giving FC values ranges from 7% to 13 %.

EC decision:

EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 27.72 Lakh** with timeline of **06 months**.

(Action: NMET)

17.17 Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Bauxite in Sirmaur -Kevati Block (145 Sq. Km.), District: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh. [Implementing agency- DGM, Madhya Pradesh (M/s. Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd.)]

Discussion: Shri Janardan Prasad, DG GSI discussed the technical and financial aspects of project. He conveyed that Bauxite section shows pisolitic bauxite, pisolitic laterite, aluminous laterite and lithomarge and well exposed along the scarp faces and near the margin of the plateaus. Further, he also informed that a team of geologists from Maheswari Mining Pvt. Ltd. visited the area and analysed five samples giving values ranging from 36% to 56 % of Al2O3.

EC decision: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of **₹ 89.75 Lakh** with timeline of **08 months**.

(Action: NMET)

Agenda 18: Approval on Extension of timeline for ongoing projects

TCC in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023 and 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension for following ongoing projects:

18.1 Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Limestone in Voteranlagso area of West Karbi, District – Anglong, Assam [Implementing Agency: DGM Assam]

&

18.2 Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Iron ore in Lengupara area District – Goalpara, Assam [Implementing Agency: DGM Assam]

&

18.3 Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Sillimanite in Samelangsu area, District – Karbi-Anglong, Assam [Implementing Agency: DGM Assam]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 12 months in respect of projects mentioned at para 18.1 to 18.3 due to monsoon and delay in statutory clearances. The Executive committee directed that HoD, GSI may enquire and submit a report on delay of projects to NMET for considering the time extension of 12 months.

Decision of EC: Chairperson EC directed HoD, NER, GSI to submit an enquiry report for delay in projects mentioned at para 18.1 to 18.3 in next EC meeting.

(Action: GSI)

18.4 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for bauxite in Madupat-1 block, District – Lohardaga, Jharkhand. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 02 months for additional analysis of 20 samples and preparation of geological report in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G3) for bauxite in Madupat-1 block, District – Lohardaga, Jharkhand for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 02 months up to 01.07.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.5 Reconnaissance survey for Copper in Chalima Block (101.84 sq. km) in Giridih District – Jharkhand. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023 had recommended an additional drilling in the potential area and has therefore also recommended timeline extension of 09 months in respect of Reconnaissance survey for Copper in Chalima Block (101.84 sq. km) in Giridih District – Jharkhand for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 09 months up to 06.10.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.6 Detailed Exploration (G-1 stage) for Lignite in Veeranam Sub Block-IV in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023, recommended timeline extension of 03 months due to law & order issue in respect of "Detailed Exploration (G-1 stage) for Lignite in Veeranam Sub Block-IV in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu" for approval of EC.

MECL informed that field activities have been completed and time extension has been sought for report submission.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 3 months up to 30.06.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.7 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Copper ore in Dhanota Block, Southern Khetri Copper Belt, Jhunjhunu District – Rajasthan. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 06 months in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Copper ore in Dhanota Block, Southern Khetri Copper Belt, Jhunjhunu District, Rajasthan for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 06 months up to 23.07.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.8 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Copper in Thakurdih-Charakmara Block in East Singhbhum District – Jharkhand. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee recommended additional drilling in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Copper in Thakurdih-Charakmara Block in East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023. Therefore, extension of 06 months i.e. up to 23.07.2023 is recommended for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 06 months up to 24.09.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.9 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Limestone in Periyakurichi Block (1.88 sq.km.) in Ariyalur District, Tamil Nadu. [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 52nd meeting held on 27th & 28th April, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 02 months due to delay in comment from peer reviewer in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Limestone in Periyakurichi Block (1.88 sq.km.) in Ariyalur District, Tamil Nadu for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 02 months up to 30.06.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.10 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli G Block, District-Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended to include the data of boreholes drilled by GSI in geological report of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli G Block, District-Sundargarh and Keonjhar, Odisha. Therefore, TCC recommended extension of timeline for 02 months for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 02 months up to 31.07.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.11 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli D Block, District-Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 03 months in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli D Block, District- Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha due to delay in receipt of forest clearance for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 03 months up to 31.08.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.12 Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli E Block, District-Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha [Implementing Agency: MECL]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 03 months in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli E Block, District- Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha due to delay in receipt of forest clearance for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 03 months up to 31.08.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.13 Preliminary Exploration for Coal in Dhaska Nugai Block, East of Bisrampur Coalfield, District: Surguja, Chhattisgarh [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 08 months in respect of Preliminary Exploration for Coal in Dhaska Nugai Block, East of Bisrampur Coalfield, District: Surguja, Chhattisgarh due to delay in receipt of forest clearance for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 08 months up to 24.11.2023

(Action: NMET)

18.14 Preliminary Exploration for Coal in Ulia Gamhardih Block East of Bisrampur Coalfield, District:Surguja, Chhattisgarh. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 06 months in respect of Preliminary Exploration for Coal in Ulia Gamhardih Block East of Bisrampur Coalfield, District: Surguja, Chhattisgarh due to delay in receipt of forest clearance for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 06 months up to 30.11.2023

(Action: NMET)

18.15 Reconnaissance Survey for Coal in Pawanchora Central Block, Wardha Valley Coalfield, District: Chandrapur, Maharashtra. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 08 months in respect of reconnaissance survey for coal in Pawanchora Central Block, Wardha Valley Coalfield, District: Chandrapur, Maharashtra due to cancellation of earlier tender as per the directive GoI for tending through GEM only approval of EC.
The Executive committee observed that justification for delay may be submitted in the next EC meeting for time extension of the project.

Decision of EC: Executive Committee suggested submitting a report justifying the delay in the next EC meeting.

(Action: CMPDI)

18.16 Preliminary Exploration for Coal in West of Chano-Rikba Coal Block, North Karanpura Coalfield, District: Hazaribagh, Jharkhand. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 06 months in respect of Preliminary Exploration for Coal in West of Chano-Rikba Coal Block, North Karanpura Coalfield, District: Hazaribagh, Jharkhand due to delay in tender for out sourcing.
Decision of EC: EC suggested to submit a report justifying the delay in the next EC meeting.

(Action: CMPDI)

18.17 Reconnaissance Survey for Coal in North of Chulaha Bhulia Block Sohagpur Coalfield, District: Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 06 months in respect of Reconnaissance Survey for Coal in North of Chulaha Bhulia Block Sohagpur Coalfield, District: Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh due to delay in receipt of forest clearance for approval of EC.
Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 06 months up to 30.11.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.18 Preliminary Exploration for Coal in North of Labji Pusla Block, Sonhat Coalfield District:Korea, Chhattisgarh. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24th & 25th May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 02 months due to delay in receiving of chemical analysis

of Preliminary Exploration for Coal in North of Labji Pusla Block, Sonhat Coalfield District: Korea, Chhattisgarh for approval of EC.

Decision of EC:
EC approved the timeline extension for 02 months up to 31.07.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.19 Preliminary Exploration for Coal in West of Sheetaldhara Block, Sohagpur Coalfield, District: Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh. [Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24-25 May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 02 months due to delay receiving of chemical analysis of Preliminary Exploration for Coal in West of Sheetaldhara Block, Sohagpur Coalfield, District: Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension for 02 months up to 31.07.2023.

(Action: NMET)

18.20 Extension of Timeline for Procurement of Two Chemical Analysis Instruments Viz. WD-XRF & ICP-MS. [Implementing Agency: IBM]

EC was informed that TCC committee in its 53rd meeting held on 24-25 May, 2023 recommended timeline extension of 9 months for WD-XRF i.e. upto 01.03.2024 and time extension of 8 months for ICP-MS i.e. up to 01.02.2024 for approval of EC.

Decision of EC: EC approved the timeline extension of 9 months for WD-XRF i.e. up to 01.03.2024 and time extension of 8 months for ICP-MS i.e. up to 01.02.2024.

(Action: NMET)

Agenda 19: Shri Debkumar Bhattacharyya, Deputy Director General & HoD, Remote Sensing and Aerial Survey (RSAS), GSI presented the Status and Outcome of the National Aero-Geophysical Survey (NAGMP). The GSI presentation on procurement of equipment will be made in the next meeting.

Agenda 20: The presentation by CMD, MECL on the status of projects by MECL from NMET will be made in the next meeting.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

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Annexure 1

List of Attendees For 30th Meeting of EC held on 6th June, 2023

S. No.	Name & Designation	Organization / Email	Remarks
01	Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, IAS Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Ministry of Mines secy_mines@nic.in	Chairperson EC
02	Shri Sanjay Lohiya, IAS Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Ministry of Mines sanjay.lohiya@gov.in	Member Secretary
03	Shri S.Krishnan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries, Investment Promotion & Commerce Department, Chennai Tamil Nadu	Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department, Government of Tamil Nadu geomines@nic.in	Member
04	Shri Raghvendra Kumar Singh, IAS, Principal Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Madhay Pradesh	Member, Ex offcio	Member
05	Shri Janardan Prasad, Director General, GSI	Geological Survery of India janardan.prasad@gsi.gov.in	Member
06	Shri B. Saravanan, Director Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research	AMD Dept. of Atomic Energy, director.amd@gov.in	Member
07	Shri Deepak Goyel Advisor (P) Ministry of Coal	Ministry of Coal	Representative of Ministry of Coal
08	Shri R.K Kureel, Director, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas rk.kureel@nic.in	Representative of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
09	Shri J. Jayakanthan, IAS, Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Tamil Nadu	Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Tamil Nadu	Representative of State Government
10	Shri Ravindra Gurav, Joint Secretary, Government of Maharashtra	Government of Maharashtra	Representative of State Government
11	Shri Alok Sharma, GM & HoD (Exploration) (Retd), CMPDIL.	Exploration Expert, Aloksharma360@gmail.com	Nominated Member
12	Shri Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Retd.), MECL.	Exploration Expert, nautiyal.naresh5@gmail.com	Nominated Member
13	Dr.YamunaSingh, (Retd.), Scientist-H, AMD	Exploration Expert, yamunasingh1957@gmail.com	Nominated Member
14	Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat, DDG (Retd), GSI	Exploration Expert, shekhawatls57@gmail.com	Nominated Member

15	Dr. Sahendra Singh, Associate Professor,	Exploration Expert, sahendra@iitism.ac.in	Nominated Member
16	Shri Vivek Kumar Sharma, Director, Ministry of Mines	Ministry of Mines vksharma.ofb@gov.in	HoD, NMET
Attendees from GSI and MECL for presentation			
GSI			
16	Shri Debkumar Bhattacharyya, Deputy Director General & HoD, Remote Sensing and Aerial Survey,GSI	GSI	Invitee
17	Shri Rajinder Kumar, DDG & NMH-1A, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
18	Shri AsitSaha, DDG, PSS-P&M, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
19	Dr. Santanu Bhattacharjee, DDG, P&A, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
20	Dr. P. K. Singh, DDG, Mission-IIIC, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
21	Dr. Shailendra Singh, DDG, STSS, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
22	Dr.Pankajmala Bhattacharya, Director, NMH-1A, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
23	Shri. R. L. Sarkar, Director, PSS-P&M-7, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
24	Dr. M. L. Dora, Director, PSS, SR, Hyderabad	GSI	Invitee
25	Shri. P. K. Jena, Director, PSS-P&M-2, CHQ	GSI	Invitee
26	Smt. Anju C S, Senior Geologist	GSI	Invitee
MECL			
27	Shri. Ghanshyam Sharma, CMD, MECL	MECL	Invitee
28	Shri. Pankaj Pandey, Director(Technical), MECL	MECL	Invitee
29	Shri. P. Ravindran, GM (Exploration), MECL	MECL	Invitee
30.	Shri. Saurabh Vivek, Manager (Geology),MECL		

Annexure-2

Action Taken Report (ATR) on minutes of 29th EC meeting of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 31st March, 2023.

Agenda	Decision of 29th EC meeting	Action taken/To be taken
3.0 Approval of new project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC)		
1	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Iron, Manganese and Associated Minerals in Talwa Block (80.50 sq.km.) Districts-Jabalpur and Katni, Madhya Pradesh.[Implementing agency-MECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of ₹ 46.75 Lakh and timeline of 10 months.	Sanction order issued on 13.04.2023
2	Preliminary Exploration (G3 stage) for Potash in Bharusari North Block (10 sq. km.), North-western Part of Rajasthan, District: Hanumangarh, Rajasthan. [Implementing agency-MECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of ₹739.70 Lakh and timeline of less than 6 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
3	Preliminary Exploration, G3 (Phase-I) For Ni, Co, PGE and associated minerals in J.C. Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt near Rampura and Gollarahatti Block, Hassan District, Karnataka. [Implementing agency-DGM Karnataka, M/s GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of ₹ 82.87 Lakh and timeline of 10 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
4	Preliminary Exploration, G3 (Phase-I) in Block 'A' For Ni-Cr-PGE-Au in Mafic Ultramafic Bodies in Hadanur-Tagadur Belt, Mandya District, Karnataka. [Implementing agency-DGM Karnataka, M/s GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with an estimated cost of ₹ 86.12 Lakh and timeline of 10 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
5	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [DGM, Bihar] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹ 15.50 Lakh and timeline of 12 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
6	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [DGM, Goa] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹35.96 Lakh and timeline of 12 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
7	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [DGM, UT of Jammu & Kashmir] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹ 144:56 Lakh and timeline of 12 months.	Bank details received added in PFMS on 05.06.2023

8	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [DGM, Madhya Pradesh] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹ 161.35 Lakh and timeline of 12 months.	Sanction order issued on 13.04.2023
9	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [DGM, Mizoram] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹ 195.99 Lakh and timeline of 12 months.	Sanction order issued on 20.04.2023
10	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [DGM, Nagaland] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹ 14.25 Lakh and timeline of timeline of 12 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
11	Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [Implementing Agency: DMM, West Bengal] **EC decision**: EC approved the project with estimated cost of ₹ 54.50 Lakh and timeline of 12 months.	Sanction order issued on 17.04.2023
4.0 Extension of timeline for ongoing projects		
1	Extension of timeline in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Limestone in Periyakurichi Block (1.88 sq. km) in Ariyalur District, Tamil Nadu. [Implementing Agency: MECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the timeline extension for 3 months up to 30.04.2023.]	OM issued on 11.04.2023
2	Extension of timeline in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Keluamali block, District - Kalahandi, Odisha. [Implementing Agency: OMECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the timeline extension for 10 months up to 31.10.2023.	OM issued on 11.04.2023
3	Extension of timeline in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Majhingamali block, District – Rayagada & Kalahandi, Odisha. [Implementing Agency: OMECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the timeline extension for 12 months up to 31.12.2023.	OM issued on 11.04.2023
• 4	Extension of timeline in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Tarhapani (West) block, District - Koraput, Odisha. [Implementing Agency: OMECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the timeline extension for 5 months up to 31.05.2023.	OM issued on 11.04.2023

5	Extension of timeline in respect of Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Karnapodikonda block in Narayanpatna Tehsil, District - Koraput, Odisha. [Implementing Agency: OMECL] **EC decision**: EC approved the timeline extension for 9 months up to 30.09.2023.	OM issued on 11.04.2023
Discussion (additional points)		
1	Chairman, EC asked NMET cell to conduct a review of the procurement proposals approved by EC to different states and update the status of the same in the next EC meeting.	a. The proposals were reviewed during workshop held on 02nd May, 2023 on Capacity Building and Procurement of Instruments & Equipment by State DGMs/DMGs, under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Mines. b. Additional Secretary, Mines has given timeline to all state DGMs/DMGs for floating tenders by June, 2023.
2	Chairman, EC asked Chairman, TCC to critically review the delay in the execution of exploration projects by EAs and recommend whether some disincentives could be introduced.	Discussed under Agenda 17
3	Dr. L.S. Shekhawat suggested creating an inventory of the boreholes drilled in Nagaur-Ganganagar basin for Potash exploration, so that a complete study of the drilled boreholes can be done and made into a report for the entire basin.	GSI has already initiated compilation of voluminous details of all the boreholes drilled in Nagaur- Ganganagar Evaporite Basin (NGEB) and it is likely to be completed by July, 2023

Annexure 3

Approved New Projects in 30th meeting of EC held on 06th June, 2023

S. No.	Project/Block Name	Commodity	Stage	Duration (Months)	Approved Cost (₹ Lakh Including GST)
A. Implementing Agency: MECL					
1	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Pipariya-Nayakheda Block and Simariyakalan-Baheriya Block (10 Sq. Km.), District: Narasingpur, Madhya Pradesh	Limestone	G3	08	**116.50**
2	Exploration (G-3 Level) for Gemstones in Neelam Khan area, Kishtwar District, J&K Total Area - 5.0 Sq. km	Gemstones	G3	36	***Phase I: 426.23**
*** Exploration work for Phase I has already been initiated and the funds for same has been distributed to MECL vide S.O. No. 23/362/2023-NMET/89 dt. 16 May, 2023 to take up the project.**					
3	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Tin in Pokhar-Chhaili Block (90.00 Sq. Km), Tehri Garwal District, Uttarakhand.	Tin	G4	08	**105.05**
4	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Graphite in Ganacharpura Block (33.60 Sq. Km), Kolar District, Karnataka.	Graphite	G4	08	**92.96**
5	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Diamond in Angira B Block (1.5 Sq. Km), District: Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh	Diamond	G3	15	**494.12**
				Sub Total-A	*1234.86*
B. Implementing Agency: KIOCL					
6	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Phosphorite, Baryte & REE in Katamadevarahalli Area, Kalburgi Dist, Karnataka (Block area- 100 sq. km.)	Phosphorite, Baryte & REE	G4	08	**76.25**
				Sub Total-B	*76.25*

C. Implementing Agency: DGM, Maharashtra (M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)					
7	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron Ore in Alenga-Nendwadi Block, Gadchiroli District, Maharashtra Exploration Agency - Total Area - 120 Sq Km;	Iron ore	G4	06	**37.75**
8	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Iron Ore in Marampalli-Jinjgaon Block (90 sq.km), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra	Iron Ore	G4	06	**33.26**
9	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron Ore in Tadgaon-Wateli Block (80 Sq.Km), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra	Iron Ore	G4	06	**32.65**
10	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Iron Ore in Gilanguda-Padur Block (65 Sq.Km), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra.	Iron Ore	G4	06	**26.79**
11	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron Ore in Murwada-Tumarikodi Block (85 Sq. Km), District: Gadchiroli, Maharashtra.	Iron Ore	G4	06	**33.14**
				Sub Total-C	*163.59*
D. Implementing Agency: DGM Chhattisgarh (M/s. GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.)					
12	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE mineralization in Kenda, Barpali, Nagpura, Chureli, Manikpur village areas (75.00 sq.km), part of T.S. No. 64J/02 of Bilaspur District, Chhattisgarh	REE	G4	06	**47.52**
				Sub Total-D	*47.52*
E. Implementing Agency: DGM Chhattisgarh (M/s. United Exploration India Pvt. Ltd.)					
13	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in Nawadih Block (32.04 sq.km.), District: Balrampur, State: Chhattisgarh	Graphite	G4	06	**27.72**
				Sub Total-E	*27.72*

F. Implementing Agency: DGM Madhya Pradesh (M/s. Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd.)					
14	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Bauxite in Sirmaur -Kevati Block (145 Sq. Km.), District: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.	Bauxite	G4	08	**89.75**
				Sub Total-F	***89.75***
				Total A to F	**1639.69**

The total cost of new projects recommended by TCC is **₹ 1639.69 Lakh.**

Annexure 4

Approved Time Extension for ongoing projects 30th meeting of EC held on 06th June, 2023

S. No.	Block/Project	Implementing Agency	Schedule date of completion	Required timeline (up to)	Reason for Delay
1	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for bauxite in Madupat-1 block, District – Lohardaga, Jharkhand.	CMPDI	01.05.2023	01.07.2023 (02 months)	Analysis of 20 additional Samples
2	Reconnaissance survey for Copper in Chalima Block (101.84 sq. km) in Giridih District – Jharkhand	MECL	06.01.2023	06.10.2023 (09 months)	Additional Drilling
3	Detailed Exploration (G-1 stage) for Lignite in Veeranam Sub Block-IV in Cuddalore District – Tamil Nadu	MECL	31.03.2023	30.06.2023 (03 months)	Law and order
4	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Copper ore in Dhanota Block, Southern Khetri Copper Belt, Jhunjhunu District – Rajasthan.	MECL	23.01.2023	23.07.2023 (06 months)	Additional Drilling
5	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Copper in Thakurdih-Charakmara Block in East SinghbhumDistrict – Jharkhand.	MECL	24.03.2023	24.09.2023 (06 months)	Additional Drilling
6	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Limestone in Periyakurichi Block (1.88 sq.km.) in Ariyalur District, Tamil Nadu.	MECL	30.04.2023	30.06.2023 (02 Months)	Delay in Peer Review (1st Extension of 03 months provided in 29th EC)
7	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli G Block, District- Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha	MECL	31.05.2023	31.07.2023 (2 Months)	For including data of GSI BHs in GR (1st extension of 14 months provided in 23rd EC meeting)

8	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli D Block, District- Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha	MECL	31.05.2023	31.08.2023 (3 Months)	- (1st extension provided till May, 2023)
9	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Iron Ore in Malangtoli E Block, District- Sundargarh And Keonjhar, Odisha	MECL	31.05.2023	31.08.2023 (3 Months)	- (1st extension provided till May, 2023)
10	Preliminary Exploration for Coal in Dhaska Nugai Block, East of Bisrampur Coalfield, District:Surguja, Chhattisgarh.	CMPDI	24.03.2023	24.11.2023 (08 Months)	Delay in forest clearances (received on 24.04.2023)
11	Preliminary Exploration for Coal in Ulia Gamhardih Block East of Bisrampur Coalfield, District:Surguja, Chhattisgarh.	CMPDI	31.05.2023	30.11.2023 (06 Months)	Delay in forest clearances (received on 24.04.2023)
12	Reconnaissance Survey for Coal in North of Chulaha Bhulia Block Sohagpur Coalfield, District: Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh.	CMPDI	31.05.2023	30.11.2023 (06 Months)	Delay in forest clearances (received on 11.05.2023)
13	Preliminary Exploration for Coal in North of Labji Pusla Block, Sonhat Coalfield District: Korea, Chhattisgarh.	CMPDI	31.05.2023	31.07.2023 (02 Months)	Delay in result of chemical analysis
14	Preliminary Exploration for Coal in West of Sheetaldhara Block, Sohagpur Coalfield, District: Anuppur, Madhya Pradesh.	CMPDI	31.05.2023	31.07.2023 (02 Months)	Delay in result of chemical analysis
15	Extension of Timeline for Procurement of Two Chemical Analysis Instruments Viz. WD-XRF & ICP-MS.	IBM	01.06.2023	01.03.2024 (WD-XRF) 01.02.2024 (ICP-MS)	Inability of the supplier to supply the instruments