Only through e-mail

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F.No.6/2/2015-NMET/88

New Delhi, 29th May, 2024

Subject: Circulation of minutes of 35th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 16th May, 2024.

Please find enclosed the minutes of 35th meeting of Executive Committee of NMET held on 16th May, 2024 for your kind perusal.

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

[Maneesh Kumar]
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET

To,

1. The Secretary, Dept. of Atomic Energy, Anushakti Bhawan, C.S.M. Marg, Mumbai- 400001.
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
4. The Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
5. The Director General, Geological Survey of India, 27, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700016.
6. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, 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. Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General and Chairman, TCC-NMET, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru 560111

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. The Director and Member Secretary, TCC-NMET, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bengaluru 560111

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

Minutes of the 35th Executive Committee (EC) meeting of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 16th May, 2024 at Khanij Kaksh, Central Secretariat, New Delhi

The 35th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of NMET was held under the Chairmanship of Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Mines on 16th May, 2024 at Shastri Bhawan 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 and appraised the house with the milestone achieved by NMET during the Financial Year 2023-24. He also welcomed Shri. Vivek Kumar Vajpai, Joint Secretary and Member, NMET and Shri Maneesh Kumar, Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET in the meeting. Shri Maneesh Kumar, Deputy Secretary and 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:

Agenda 35.1: Approval of minutes of 34th Meeting of EC held on 13th March, 2024.

The minutes of the 34th EC meeting were circulated on 19th March, 2024. No comments were received from the member.

Decision of EC: EC approved the minutes of the 34th Executive Committee (EC) meeting of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET).

Agenda 35.2: Action Taken Report (ATR) for minutes of 34th EC meeting held on 13th March, 2024.

Shri Maneesh Kumar, Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET presented the ATR on minutes of the 34th EC meeting held on 13th March, 2024. The EC was briefed on the progress made regarding the decisions taken during the 34th EC meeting. Out of 8 actionable points, actions on 5 points have been completed, while the status of 3 points (Additional agenda points) is still in progress.

Further, the house was appraised that DMG, Tamil Nadu, has submitted details and a date for organizing workshops and seminars with exploration agencies to accelerate exploration activities. However, DMGs/DGMs of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Sikkim, and Gujarat have only submitted a concept note, and the workshop dates are yet to be finalized.

Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Mines and Member Secretary, NMET informed the house that National Level workshop on Exploration license regime will be conducted shortly after the notification of the incentive scheme.

Decision of EC: The Chairman of the EC instructed the Deputy Secretary and HoD, NMET to upload the list of national-level organizations having laboratory equipments in the NMET webpage so that it can be utilized by the exploration agencies. This initiative aims to provide benefits to all agencies involved.

Additionally, the Chairman directed to expedite the process of organizing workshops in various states.

EC accepted the action taken reports for minutes of the 34th EC meeting.

Agenda 34.3: Financial Approval of Multi-Sensor Geophysical Survey over Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) Blocks 16,17,19 & 20

Shri. Maneesh Kumar appraised the house that TCC in its 64th meeting held on 25th and 29th-30th April, 2024 recommended NAGMP work in OGP blocks -16,17,19 & 20 (1,62,587 sq.km. with 5,96,157 Line km.) with project duration of 36 months for an amount of **₹95,03,81,566/-(Rupees Ninety-Five Crore Three Lakh Eighty-One Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty-Six only)** inclusive of 18% GST, from the date of signing of MoA with the selected bidder. GSI has to follow the due process for engagement of Principle Implementing Agencies (PIAs) to carry out Aero-geophysical Surveys as per GFR of Government of India.

The proposal has been put for providing financial approval from EC for the project Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Survey over Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) blocks -16, 17, 19 & 20 **₹95,03,81,566/- (Rupees Ninety-Five Crore Three Lakh Eighty-One Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty-Six only)** inclusive of 18% GST with project duration of 36 months from the date of signing of MoA.

Dr. S Ravi, Dy. D.G and Chairman TCC appraised the house about the importance and outcome of the work.

Decision of EC: EC approved financial sanction for **₹95,03,81,566/-(Rupees Ninety-Five Crore Three Lakh Eighty-One Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty-Six only)** inclusive of 18% GST to carry out NAGMP work over OGP block no. 16,17,19 and 20) with project duration of 36 months subject to approval of tender selection as per prevalent rules.

Chairman EC, also instructed DG, GSI to prepare a roadmap on the utilization of the NAGMP data so that the output of the work can be gainfully utilized by the various agencies. Further, he instructed to finalize a detailed action plan to complete the study of rest of the NAGMP blocks.

[Action: GSI]

Agenda 35.4: Procurement of 04 (four) nos. of Electron Probe Microscope Analyzer (EPMA) by Geological Survey of India

Geological Survey of India has submitted a proposal for procurement of four (04 nos.) of Electron Probe Micro Analyzer, EPMA amounting to Rs. 85,35,58,272/-for (i) NCEGR, Faridabad, (ii) NCEGR, RSAS Bangalore, (iii) Petrology Lab, Southern Region, Hyderabad, and (iv) Petrology Lab, Western Region, Jaipur for fulfilling the requirement of GSI.

TCC in its 64th meeting held on 25th, 29th-30th April, 2024 recommended the procurement proposal of GSI for procurement of 4 EPMA instruments with an estimated all-inclusive cost of ₹ **85,35,58,272/- (Rupees Eighty-Five Crore, Thirty-**

Five Lakh Fifty-Eight Thousand and Two Hundred Seventy-Two only) with five years' post-installation warranty and with five years' post-warranty CAMC and exclusive of **Custom duties, IGST, GST on CAMC costs, and other statutory government levies/ taxes** with a timeline of 24 months for approval of EC.

GSI has submitted a revised estimate of **Rs. 67,23,18,920/- (Rupees Sixty seven crores twenty three lakhs eighteen thousand nine hundred twenty only)** for procurement of 04 nos EPMA instrument on 10.5.2024.

Decision of EC: Considering the significance difference in the price of the four (04) nos. EPMA instruments submitted by GSI, it was decided to refer back the matter once again to TCC to review the procurement proposal.

Agenda 35.5: Procurement of 01 no. of Digital Core Logger for the establishment of Digital core library by GSI.

Shri. Maneesh Kumar appraised the house that Geological Survey of India has submitted a proposal for procurement of three (03) nos. of digital core logger to establish Digital Core Libraries.

TCC in its 64th TCC held on 25th, 29th-30th April, 2024 recommended the procurement proposal of GSI for procurement of 01 nos. Digital Core Logger amounting to **₹43,24,70,000/-** (**Rupees Forty three crores twenty four lakhs seventy thousand rupees)** inclusive of 18% GST and exclusive of custom duties, IGST and other statutory government levies/taxes with an estimated time line of 24 months.

Shri. D. V. Ganvir, ADG, NM-II (nominated representative of DG, GSI) gave a detailed description of the instrument and pointed out that the instrument is more efficient than the instrument getting procured by MECL.

Decision of EC: EC has approved in principle procurement of one (01) nos. digital core logger instrument amounting to **₹43,24,70,000/-** (**Rupees Forty three crores twenty four lakhs seventy thousand rupees)** inclusive of 18% GST and exclusive of custom duties, IGST and other statutory government levies/taxes with an estimated timeline of 24 months.

Agenda 35.6: Proposals for Financial Assistance for procurement of Machinery/Equipment

Shri. Maneesh Kumar informed the house that TCC has recommended the three (03) nos. proposals of financial assistance for procurement of Machinery/Equipment pertaining DGM, Mizoram, DMG, Telengana and DMG, Rajasthan for approval of EC amounting to **₹2138.66 Lakh (Rupees two thousand one hundred thirty eight lakhs and sixty six thousand only).** The details given in the sub clauses.

35.6.1: Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. to DGM, Mizoram. EC was informed that following equipment have been recommended by TCC with estimate cost of **Rs. 2 lakhs** submitted by DGM, Mizoram.

S. No.	Software / Hardware /Equipment	Quantity	Estimated Price / Unit (₹ in Lakh)	Total Estimated cost (₹ in Lakh)
1.	Bomb Calorimeter	**1**	2.00	**2.00**

Decision of EC: EC has approved the proposal for procurement of one (01) nos. bomb calorimeter amounting to **₹2 lakhs/-** to DGM, Mizoram within already sanctioned amount of Rs. 4.65 Crores.

35.6.2: Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. to DMG, Telengana.

EC was informed that following equipment have been recommended by TCC with estimate cost of **Rs. 750.78 lakhs** submitted by DMG, Telengana.

S. No.	Software / Hardware /Equipment	Quantity	Estimated Price / Unit (₹ in Lakh)	Total Estimated cost (₹ in Lakh)
1	ICP-MS	1	250	250
2	WD XRF	1	220	220
3	AAS (F&GTA)	1	60	60
4	Planetary Ball Mill	1	30	30
5	Fusion bead machine	1	20.00	20.00
6	Press pallet machine	1	3.90	3.90
7	Hot Plates	5	0.15	0.75
8	Muffle furnace	5	1.00	5.00
9	Air Oven	1	0.55	0.55
10	Rock cutting, polishing and mounting unit	1	70.00	70.00
11	Stero Zoom Microscope	1	31.00	31.00
12	Transmitted and reflected light research microscope with software attached camera	1	18.58	18.58
13	GIS Software	1	25.00	25.00
14	DGPS	1	16.00	16.00
			Total	**750.78**

Decision of EC: During the discussion it was observed that there is no progress in auction of blocks submitted to Telengana State. EC decided that, the Financial Assistance to DMG, Telengana should be sanctioned after the issuance of NIT for Auctioning of mineral blocks by Telengana State.

35.6.3: Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. to DMG, Rajasthan.

EC was informed that following equipment have been recommended by TCC with estimate cost of **₹1,385.88/- Lakhs** submitted by DMG, Rajasthan

S. No.	Software / Hardware /Equipment	Quantity	Estimated Price / Unit (₹ in Lakh)	Total Estimated cost (₹ in Lakh)	Status
1	Brunton Compass	20	0.10	2.00	Financial approval given with a clause that fund will be released once DGM, Rajasthan provides utilization certificate of 80% of the fund issued earlier for procurement of instruments
2	Geologist hammer	20	0.10	2.00	
3	Handheld GPS	20	0.95	19.00	
4	Handheld XRF	1	30	30.00	
5	DGPS	1	16	16.00	
6	Total Station	2	6.96	13.92	
7	Rock cutting, polishing and mounting unit	1	70.00	70.00	
8	Pulverizer	1	40.00	40.00	
9	Stereo Zoom microscope	1	30.00	30.00	
10	Polarizing microscope	1	25.00	25.00	
11	AAS	1	80.00	80.00	
12	Fire Assay	1	13.76	13.76	
13	ICP-MS	1	250.00	250.00	
14	Hot Plates	4	0.15	0.60	
15	Fume Hood	2	0.20	0.40	
16	Air Oven	2	0.55	1.10	
17	Muffle Furnace/ Proximate /Analyzer	2	1.00	2.00	
18	Surfer	2	2.30	4.60	
19	Corel Draw	2	0.75	1.50	
20	Drilling Machine up to 1000m Capacity	2	25.00	50.00	
21	Hydrostaic truck mounted drill machine with 1000m capacity	2	120.00	240.00	
22	Bits, drill rods, casing core barrel (for one year requirement for one time)	3	80.00	240.00	
23	Pumps (pressure /mud)	6	15.00	90.00	
24	Core splitter /core splitter hydrostatic	2	2.00	4.00	
25	Truck Mounted Hydrostatic Rig 600m	2	80.00	160.00	
			Total	**1,385.88**	

Decision of EC: EC approved the proposal for procurement of above mentioned item amounting to **₹1385.88/- lakhs (Rupees One thousand three hundred eighty-five lakhs and eighty-eight thousand only)** to DGM, Rajasthan subject to receipt of utilization certificate of the 80% of the earlier allotted fund.

Agenda 35.7: Approval and Ratification of new exploration project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC)

TCC in its 63rd and 64th meeting held on 22nd, 26th-27th March, 2024 and 25th,29th-30th April, 2024 recommended the following 14 nos. of mineral exploration proposals for ratification and approval of EC. The projects from Sl. No. 1-3, were approved by Secretary [Mines] on 03.05.2024 and has been put up to EC for ratification. The estimated cost of projects to be ratified is **₹613.62/- lakhs (Rupees six hundred thirteen lakhs and sixty two thousand only)** and cost of mineral exploration projects to be approved is **₹2152.15 Lakhs (Rupees two thousand one hundred fifty two lakhs and fifteen thousand only). The total cost for approval is ₹2765.77 Lakhs (Rupees tow thousand seven hundred sixty five lakhs and seventy seven thousand only).**

Decision of EC: EC ratified the financial sanction of **₹613.62 lakhs (Rupees six hundred thirteen lakhs and sixty two thousand only)** from NMET funds, for three (03) nos. exploration proposals. EC also approved financial sanction of **₹2021.73 Lakhs (Rupees two thousand twenty one lakhs and seventy three thousand)** for 10 projects of mineral exploration from Sl. No. 4 to 14 except project at Sl. No 13. The project of Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd. at sl. no 13 has been deferred.

The details of the all new project proposals which have been ratified and approved are given below:

S. No.	Project/Block Name	Commodity	Stage	Duration (Months)	Approved Cost (in ₹ Lakh Including GST)	Status
A. Implementing Agency: MECL						
1	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Glauconite Sandstone in Deulha block (8.5 sq.km.), Satna district, Madhya Pradesh	Glauconite	G3	09	105.18	Ratified
2	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Glauconite Sandstone in Jhari block (5.1 sq.km.), Satna district, Madhya Pradesh	Glauconite	G3	09	72.41	Ratified
3	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Copper and associated minerals in	Copper & associated minerals	G3	12	436.03	Ratified

	Thakurdih Area-1 Block (5.1 sq.km.), Singhbhum Copper Belt, East Singhbhum district, Jharkhand					
4	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Iron, Manganese and Associated Minerals in Tindni area (7.4 Sq. Km) Jabalpur district, Madhya Pradesh.	Iron, Manganese and associated Minerals	G3	15	368.85	Approved
5	Reconnaissance survey (G-4) for Glauconitic sandstone in Parsada-Nawapara-Gurur area (146.27 sq km), Balod district, Chhattisgarh	Glauconite	G4	12	116.75	Approved
6	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Manganese Ore in Dhavalapur area (15.00 sq km), Nagpur district, Maharashtra.	Manganese	G3	12	231.60	Approved
				Sub Total-A		**1330.82**
B. Implementing Agency: KIOCL						
7	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Graphite in Arsanur East block, Sivaganga district, Tamil Nadu	Graphite	G3	12	346.20	Approved
				Sub Total-B	**346.20**	
C. Implementing Agency: DGM, Assam						
8	Reconnaissance (G-4) survey for Limestone in Dillai area, Karbi Anglong districts, Assam.	Limestone	G4	12	348.00	Approved
				Sub Total-C	**348.00**	
D. Implementing Agency: DGM, Maharashtra (M/s Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.)						
9	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Sawalhira (East) Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra	Limestone	G3	10	86.71	Approved
10	Preliminary exploration for Limestone in Rupapeth Block, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra	Limestone	G3	10	96.00	Approved

				Sub Total-D	**182.71**	
E. Implementing Agency: DGM, Karnataka (M/s Ecomen Mining Pvt. Ltd.)						
11	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Iron and Manganese mineralization in Ramghad Block, Bellari District, Karnataka	Iron and Manganese	G3	12	164.36	Approved
				Sub Total-E	**164.36**	
F. Implementing Agency: M/s GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.						
12	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for REE and associated minerals in Borana block, Rajsamand district, Rajasthan	REE & associated minerals	G3	12	146.98	Approved
				Sub Total-F	**146.98**	
G. Implementing Agency: M/s Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd.						
13	Reconnaissance survey for (G4 Stage) Lithium and associated elements in Chhuri, Jenjara area, Korba district, Chhattisgarh	Lithium and associated elements	G4	12	Deferred	Deferred
H. Implementing Agency: M/s United Exploration India Private Ltd.						
14	Reconnaissance survey (G4) for nickel-cobalt, PGE and chromium in and around Phangrai area, Ukhrul district, Manipur	Ni-Co, PGE and chromium	G4	12	116.28	Approved
				Sub Total-H	**116.28**	
				Total A+B+C+D+E+F+H	**2635.35**	

Agenda 35.8: Approval of cancellation of projects recommended by TCC

TCC in its 63rd meeting held on 22nd, 26th-27th March, 2024 recommended following 01 no. proposal for cancellation:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Remarks
1.	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) of Graphite occurrence around Bandhabhuin area (1 sq.km.), District: Dhenkanal, Odisha	DGM, Odisha	Maximum area falls under Eco Sensitive Zone

The project was approved in 27th EC meeting held on 10.1.2023. The total cost of the project was ₹166.16/- Lakhs and the sanction order amounting to **₹66 lakhs /-**

(Rupees Sixty-six lakhs only) was issued on 4.9.2023. The maximum area falls under Eco sensitive zone hence the project could be executed by the agency.

Decision of EC: EC approved for cancellation of the project.

Agenda 35.9: Approval of surrendering projects recommended by TCC

TCC in its 64th meeting held on 25th, 29th-30th April, 2024 recommended following 01 no. proposal for surrendering:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Remarks
1.	Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Ni, Co and PGE Minerals In JC Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt Near Rampura and Gollarahatti Block, Hassan District, Karnataka	DGM Karnataka (GeoExporePvt Ltd.)	Local Agitation

The project was approved in 29th EC meeting held on 31.3.2023. The total cost of the project was **₹82.87/- Lakhs (Rupees Eighty two lakhs and eighty seven thousand only)** and the sanction order amounting to **₹33 lakhs (Rupees thirty three lakhs)** were issued on 17.4.2023. The agency has carried out geophysical mapping and due to agitation by local people the agency is unable to carry out further exploration in the area. TCC recommended to surrender the project and submit the geological report of the work done.

Decision of EC: EC suggested that another attempt can be made to start exploration by sorting out the issue with local people after elections. Chairman EC asked that a DO letter be sent to Govt. of Karnataka to pursue the matter so that the exploration work can be taken up by the agency.

Agenda 35.10: Approval of Additional costs for ongoing projects recommended by TCC

TCC in its 63rd meeting held on 22nd, 26th-27th March, 2024 and 64th meeting held on 25th, 29th-30th April, 2024 recommended the additional cost for following 02 nos. of mineral exploration projects:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Approved cost(₹ in Lakh)	Additional cost (₹ in Lakh)	Remarks
1	Reconnaissance Survey for Ni and PGE Prospect Block in Limbdi-Meghpur-Titodi area, Jamnagar District, Gujarat	DMG, Gujarat (M/s Geovale Ser.Pvt.Ltd.)	263.4	26.02	Revision of Geophysical survey targets
2	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) For Cu, Pb, Zn & Gold in Tarichar Khurd Block, District-Niwari, Madhya Pradesh	MECL	49.35	1.54	Additional Samples

Decision of EC: Since the additional cost is less than 10% of the total approved cost, the approval of TCC is deemed fit and approval of EC is not required.

Agenda 35.11: Approval of Extension of timeline for ongoing projects recommended by TCC

TCC in its 63rd meeting held on 22nd, 26th-27th March, 2024 and 64th meeting held on 25th, 29th-30th April, 2024 recommended the 18 nos. ongoing proposals for extension of timeline for approval of EC.

DMG Karnataka appraised the house that they are facing problem with the purchase of WD-XRF, as the instrument is completely manufactured by the agency which is abroad based and in GeM portal atleast 20% of the product should contain local component to promote Make in India scheme of GoI.

The list of projects recommended by TCC and submitted to EC for timeline extension approval is given below:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Schedule date of completion	Required timeline (up to)	Remarks
1	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for PGE, Nickel, Cobalt in Rangapura Block, Dist-Hassan, Karnataka	MECL	24.10.2023	31.05.2024 **(7 months)**	Delay in drilling due to standing crops
2	Reconnaissance Survey (G-$) for Manganese ore in Taljuri-Gunchadihi Block (80 sq.km.), Balangir District, Odisha	MECL	02.02.2024	31.08.2024 **(7 months)**	For submission of GR
3	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Coal in West of Ghughus & Bellora block (39.15 sq. km), Wardha Valley Coalfield District- Yavatmal, Maharashtra.	CMPDIL	02.02.2024	01.09.2024 **(7 months)**	Lack of participation of bidders for drilling
4	Reconnaissance Survey for Zinc and associated Minerals in Jamua area Giridih District , Jharkhand	CMPDIL	05.02.2024	31.05.2024 **(3.5 months)**	Delay in Chemical Analysis
5	Reconnaissance Survey for Coal in Khapia block, North Karanpura CF Jharkhand	CMPDIL	02.04.2024	02.10.2024 **(6 months)**	Delay in Forest Clearance
6	Procurement of Ore/Polarizing Microscope with Transmitted/Incident Light and oil immersion objectives.	DGM, Karnataka	29.02.2024	31.08.2024 **(6 months)**	Tendering issue due to Make in India component
7	Procurement of machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.	DGM Karnataka	23.03.2024	30.09.2024 **(6 months)**	Due to Model Code of Conduct & tendering issues
8	Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of Limestone in Jodhpur-Satarpar Block,	CGM, Gujarat	04.01.2024	30.04.2024 **(4 months)**	Delay in Chemical Analysis

	Devbhumi Dwarka District, Gujarat				
9	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite in Lamer-Panga Block- A (13.99 sq. Km) in Kalahandi district of Odisha	OMC	02.06.2024	02.12.2024 **(6 months)**	Additional Drilling
10	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite in Lamer-Panga Block- B (12.994 sq. Km) in Kalahandi district of Odisha	OMC	02.04.2024	02.08.2024 **(4 months)**	Additional Drilling
11	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Iron Ore in Thakurani Block (1.399 sq.km.), Keonjhar Dist., Odisha	OMC	02.12.2023	31.05.2024 **(6 months)**	For GR Submission
12	Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.	DMG, Rajasthan	23.03.2024	31.03.2025 **(12 months)**	Due to Model Code of Conduct during Assembly Elections and further Lok Sabha Elections
13	Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.	DGM, Chhattisgarh	02.04.2024	31.12.2024 **(9 months)**	Due to Model Code of Conduct during Assembly Elections and further Lok Sabha Elections
14	Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.	DGM, Maharashtra	23.03.2024	30.09.2024 **(6 months)**	Due to Model Code of Conduct during Assembly Elections and further Lok Sabha Elections
15	Financial assistance from NMET fund to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/ instrument etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.	DGM, Assam	30.03.2024	31.12.2024 **(9 months)**	Due to Model Code of Conduct during Assembly Elections and further Lok Sabha Elections
16	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) For REE Mineralization in Kenda-Barpali Block, District Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh	DGM Chhattisgarh (GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.)	25.12.2023	31.05.2024 **(5 months)**	Delay in Forest Clearance
17	Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Ni, Co and PGE Minerals In JC Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt Near Rampura and	DGM Karnataka (GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd.)	16.02.2024	31.05.2024 **(3.5 months)**	Local Agitation

	Gollarahatti Block, Hassan District, Karnataka				
18	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Bauxite in Sirmaur - Kevati Block (145 Sq. Km.), District: Rewa, Madhya Pradesh	DGM Madhya Pradesh and Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd.)	25.02.2024	15.06.2024 **(3.5 months)**	Delay in Forest Clearance

Decision of EC: EC approves the timeline extension of 18nos. projects. EC also instructed DMG, Karnataka to submit a proposal for exemption of Make in India scheme towards the purchase of WD XRF for further follow up by the Ministry.

Agenda 35.12: In-principle approval of Projects submitted by NPEAs

TCC in its 63rd meeting held on 22nd, 26th-27th March, 2024 and 64th meeting held on 25th, 29th-30th April, 2024 accorded in-principle approval for the following 03 nos. of mineral exploration proposals:

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency
1	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Ni-Co-Cr in Block-1, Ukhrul, Manipur.	M/s UEIPL
2	Preliminary investigation for establishing zones of Copper and associated mineralization in Govindpur Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra	M/s Kartikay Exploration & Mining Services Pvt. Ltd.
3.	Preliminary exploration (G-3) of heavy mineral sands in backshore and dunes for Titanium and Vanadium (Critical Minerals) in magnetite, ilmenite and Titanomagnetite, Guhagar Block, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	M/s GeoMarine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

Decision of EC: EC reviewed the projects and directed NPEAs to submit DPR within 3 months of in-principle approval.

Additional Points:

1. MECL put up a proposal to NMET for funding of three (03) nos manganese blocks in the State of Odisha for upgradation from G4 to G3 level investigation in 63rd TCC meeting. Dr. S Ravi, Chairman TCC informed the house that GSI has submitted these blocks to Odisha Govt. for auctioning under Composite License. Shri. Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary and Member Secretary, NMET informed that for bedded deposit like Iron ore, limestone, manganese and bauxite, auction can be done at G4 stage. If auction is not successful, then only NMET will fund for project upgradation. He also pointed out that Govt. of Odisha till date has not done any auction under Composite License. Shri Pradeep Singh informed that Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha stated that whatever blocks be given by GSI for auctioning, Govt. of Odisha will carry out further investigation in that area upto G2 level with their own fund and then auction the block at G2 level.

Decision of the EC: It was decided that NMET will not consider funding for these 03 proposals, until attempts to auction these blocks are made atleast 02 times.

[Action: MECL]

2. DGM, Karnataka informed that most of the senior officials of DMG, Karnataka either have retired or going to retire soon due to which they are facing lots of problems in formulating and executing geological investigations. In this context he requested that DG, GSI to deploy a few Geologists/Sr. Geologists for 2-3 weeks to provide technical assistance.

   Decision of EC: Chairman EC instructed DMG, Karnataka to review the requirement and submit a request for deputation of Geologist/Sr. Geologists to DMG, Karnataka. DG, GSI is also instructed to review the availability of deputation reserve and make suitable provisions, if required.

[Action: DMG, Karnataka and DG, GSI]

3. DMG, Chhattisgarh informed the house that there are many difficult and sensitive areas like Bastar area where NPEAs don't want to work. In such cases, some incentive scheme may help NPEAs to work in those difficult areas/terrain. Shri. Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary and Member Secretary, NMET informed the house that there is a provision of paying higher rates in S.o.C for work in North Eastern Region and the same can be implemented in such difficult and sensitive areas.

   Decision of EC: Chairman EC, asked DMG, Chhatisgarh to send a proposal for consideration.

[Action: DMG, Chhatisgarh]

4. Chairman EC instructed CMPDIL, Ranchi and DG, GSI to upload the geoscientific data of CMPDIL, in the NGDR Portal at the earliest. Chairman EC, instructed DG, GSI to engage Dy. D. G, SU: Jharkhand, Ranchi to coordinate with CMPDIL, Ranchi in this regard.

[Action: CMPDIL and DG, GSI]

In the concluding remarks, Chairman, EC directed to increase the pace of project formulation, evaluation and fund release to achieve the target. Chairman also asked to organize national level workshops regularly. At last, Chairman EC also instructed to explore strategies to fund offshore explorations.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure 1

S. No.	Name/ Designation	Status	Remarks
1	Sh. V.L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Chairperson, ex officio	Physical
2	Shri. Dheeraj Pande, Director, Atomic Mineral Directorate	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
3	Sh. Birender Kumar Thakur, Director- Technical, Ministry of Coal	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
4	Sh. Amit Bansal, Deputy Secretary Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
5	Smt. Nirupama Kotru, Joint Secreatary & FA, Ministries of Mines	Member, ex Officio	Physical
6	Sh. Janardan Prasad Director General, Geological Survey of India	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
7	Sh. Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines & CG, IBM	Member Secretary, ex Officio	Physical
8	Smt. Pooja Kulkarni, Additional Chief Secretary, Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
9	Smt. Anandhi, Secretary- Mines and Petroleum, Govt. of Rajasthan	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
10	Sh. Vinod Bangde, Additional Secretary, Government of Madhya Pradesh	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
11	Smt. Anjali Chaudhary, Director, DGM, Govt. of Maharashtra		
12	Sh. Bhagwati Prasad Director, DMG, Rajasthan	Member, ex Officio	Through VC
13	Sh. Alok Sharma, GM (Exploration) (Retd.) CMPDIL.	Member	Through VC
14	Sh. Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Business Development and Planning) (Retd.), MECL	Member	Through VC
15	Dr. Yamuna Singh, Scientist-H, Atomic Minerals Directorate (Retd.)	Member	Through VC
16	Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat, DDG (Retd.), GSI	Member	Through VC
17	Dr. Sahendra Singh, Associate Professor, IIT (ISM), Dhanbad	Member	Through VC
18	Vivek Kumar Bajpai, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Member	Physical
19	Shri. Maneesh Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Mines	Deputy Secretary and HoD, NMET	Physical
	INVITEES		
20	Dr. S. Ravi, DDG, GSi and Chairman TCC	Chairman, TCC	Physical
21	Shri Pradeep Singh, Diretor (Tech.) Ministry of Mines	Invitee	Physical

22	Shri. D. V. Ganveer, ADG and NMH-II, Nagpur, GSI	Invitee and Representative of DG, GSI	Physical
	Officers of NMET		
23	Smt. Anju C S	Senior Geologist	Physical
24	Shri. Sebabrata Das	Senior Geologist	Physical
25	Dr. Rajesh Sharma	Senior Geologist	Physical
26	Shri. Ravi Dutt	Cost Accounts Officer	Physical
27	Shri. Akshay Kumar Verma	Geologist	Physical
28	Shri. Jayant Gupta	Asst. Cost Accounts Officer	Physical
29	Shri. Yogesh Agarwal	Assistant	Physical