

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust
Minutes of the 103rd Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1) Meeting
held on 25th and 27th August 2026 through video conferencing

The 103rd Meeting of the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-I (TCC-1) of the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) was held via video conferencing under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General (DDG), Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI) and Chairman, TCC-1, NMEDT, on 25th and 27th August 2026. Members of TCC-1, NMEDT and representatives from IBM, GSI, MECL, DGM Jharkhand, DMG Rajasthan, CGM Gujarat, Hindustan Copper Limited, M/s BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd, M/s Critical Mineral Trackers, M/s Wattfin Ventures Private Limited, M/s. MMPL Private Limited, M/s. Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt Ltd, M/s ReVal Consulting Private Limited, M/s HITTITES Exploration, M/s GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd., M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s PRB Infraprojects Limited and M/s UEIPL have attended the meeting through their respective VC modes.

The list of participants is enclosed in Annexure-4.

Shri S. Dhanendran, Director, GSI and Member Secretary, TCC-1, NMEDT, welcomed Dr. S. Ravi, Dy. Director General, GSI and Chairman, TCC-1, NMEDT, Members of the TCC-1 and participants representing various Central agencies, Notified Exploration Agencies (NEAs) and Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs).

Dr. S. Ravi, Chairman of TCC-1, NMEDT, extended a warm welcome to all members of TCC-1 and participants representing various Central agencies, NEAs and NPEAs and conducted the proceedings as per circulated agenda.

Agenda 103.1: Technical Evaluation of New Project Proposals

Agenda 103.1.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE & associated Mineralization in Thotapalle area, District- Krishna & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh (Area: 83.50 Sq. Km.)

Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/AP/MECL/26-27/013

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 65D/14 and is predominantly underlain by garnetiferous sillimanite gneiss (Khondalite), migmatite, pyroxene granulite and charnockite of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB), with quartz reefs/veins occurring as intrusive bodies within the Khondalites.
- b. GSI carried out Geochemical Mapping (FS: 2017-18) in Toposheet No. 65D/14, wherein 558 stream-sediment samples were collected. Σ REE values ranged from 93.88-1,700 ppm, with LREE and HREE values ranging from 78.81-1,573.66 ppm and 8.88-67.40 ppm, respectively.
- c. The agency informed that 18 NGCM stream-sediment samples were collected from the proposed Thotapalle area, recording a maximum TREE+Sc+Y value of 1,686.06 ppm.

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- d. Out of the 18 samples, 4 samples (22%) recorded TREE+Sc+Y values exceeding 1,000 ppm, indicating anomalous REE enrichment in the proposed area.
- e. The maximum HREE value was 70.84 ppm, with Gd as the major contributor (up to 39.39 ppm), while the maximum LREE value was 1,570.22 ppm, predominantly contributed by Ce (up to 750.55 ppm) followed by La (up to 406.12 ppm).
- f. GSI carried out Specialised Thematic Mapping (STM) at 1:25,000 scale during FS: 2024–25, which reported secondary REE concentrations of 700–1,055 ppm associated with garnet-sillimanite gneiss of the Khondalite Group.
- g. GSI also conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for secondary REE enrichment in the EGMB and Pranhita–Godavari Valley during FS: 2021–24. REE mineralisation was identified mainly as heavy minerals in stream sediments, with monazite, zircon and allanite identified as REE-bearing phases through SEM studies.
- h. In view of the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for REE and rare metals (RM) to assess its resource potential.
- i. The proposed work programme comprises 1:12,500 scale large-scale geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- j. The Committee observed that the agency had submitted two adjacent G-4 blocks, namely Thotapalle (western part) and Gopalapuram (eastern part), for exploration of REE, graphite and associated minerals.
- k. In view of the presence of water bodies and a lake in the eastern part of Gopalapuram, the Committee advised the agency to combine both blocks into a single G-4 proposal and exclude the areas covered by the water bodies/lake.
- l. Accordingly, the agency modified the block area and revised the project title to “Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for REE, Graphite and Other Associated Minerals in Gopalapuram–Thotapalle Area, Districts Krishna, NTR & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh.”
- m. Regarding the overlap issue raised in the GSI comments, ADG, PSS, GSI cross-verified the matter and informed the Committee that no approved or ongoing GSI project overlaps with the proposed area.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	More than 50% area of the proposed NPEA block overlaps with the G4 project of GSI for same commodity. Therefore, the proposal of NPEA may not be considered feasible in order to avoid duplication of work.
2	MECL	Not Applicable
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however a some portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 5%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the proposal titled “Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for REE, Graphite and other associated minerals in Gopalapuram-Thotapalle Area, District- Krishna, Ntr & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh” for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 175.89 lakhs (including GST) with a timeline of 10

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months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 1A & 1B. The item will be reviewed after 4 and 8 months.

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Annexure 1A

Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for REE, Graphite and other associated minerals in Gopalapuram-Thotapalle Area, District- Krishna, Ntr & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh

Total block area- 136 sq km; Completion Time- 10 Months, Drilling: 500m (5 BH*100m), Review: after 04 and 08 months

Sl. No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMEDT SoC 2025		Estimated Cost of the Proposal		Remarks
			SoC- Item- S. No.	Rates as per SoC	Qty.	Total Amount (Rs)	
A	GEOLOGICAL MAPPING						
i	Large Scale Mapping (1:12,500)	per sq km	1.1	18300	136	24,88,800	
B	OTHER GEOLOGICAL WORK/ ACTIVITIES						
i	Charges for one Geologist- Field	per day	1.2.1a (b)	14500	45	6,52,500	
ii	Charges for one Geologist - HQ	per day	1.2.1a (a)	10500	40	4,20,000	
iii	2 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	per day	5.8	556	90	50,040	
iv	Sampling -1 Samplers Labour charge not included	per day	1.2.1b	7850	50	3,92,500	
v	4 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	per day	5.8	556	200	1,11,200	
	Sub-Total A					41,15,040	
B	PITTING & TRENCHING						
	Pitting (upto 1m depth)	per cu. m.	2.1.2	4725	75	354375	75 pits (1m*1m*1m)
	Sub-Total B					354375	
C	EXPLORATORY DRILLING (In house)						
i	Core Drilling in hard rock	per m	2.2.1.1d	10,000	500	50,00,000	5 scout bhs of 100 m depth each
ii	Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30")	per borehole	2.2.7	2,000	5	10,000.0	

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iii	Borehole Plugging	Lumpsum per borehole	2.2.8	10000	5	50000	
iv	Fixation of borehole and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes by DGPS	per point of observation	1.3.2	24,000	5	1,20,000.0	
v	Land/crop compensation	per borehole	5.6	30,000	5	1,50,000.0	as per actual
vi	Miscellaneous Charges	Lumpsum	2.2.9	For drilling cost upto 50 lakhs, 25% of the drilling cost		12,50,000.0	
vii	Core Preservation	m	5.3	1,590	200	3,18,000.0	1 complete BH + mineralised zone
	Sub Total- C					₹ 68,98,000.00	
D	LABORATORY STUDIES						
1	Chemical Analysis						
i	Analysis of 14 REE & 9 trace element by ICP-MS sequential technique	per sample	4.1.15	7400	290	2146000	REE: Bedrock: 130, Pit Samples: 75, Drillcore Samples: 60, Heavy Mineral Concentration: 25 (Including Radioactive minerals)
ii	External (10%) Check samples from NABL Lab of 14 REE & 9 trace element by ICP-MS sequential technique	per sample	4.1.15	7400	29	214600	
iii	Major Oxides (WD XRF) (oxides + traces- 24 elements)	per sample	4.1.17a	4200	10	42000	
iv	Proximate analysis for graphite	per sample	4.1.18	3614	100	361400	Graphite: Bedrock: 50, Pit Samples: 20, Drillcore Samples: 30
v	External (10%) Check samples from NABL Lab for Proximate analysis of graphite	per sample	4.1.18	3614	10	36140	
2	Physical & Petrological Studies						
i	XRD analysis for identification of mineral phase	per sample	4.5.2	4000	10	40000	

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ii	Preparation of thin polished section	per sample	4.3.2	800	10	8000	
iii	Complete mineragraphic study report	per sample	4.3.4	2800	5	14000	
iv	EPMA studies	Hrs	4.4.1	10500	10	105000	
v	Density studies (BH core)	Per Sample	4.8.3	2500	2	5000	
	Sub-Total D					29,72,140	
	Total (A TO D)					1,43,39,555	
E	Geological Report Preparation	Nos	5.2 ii	For the projects having cost exceeding Rs. 50 Lakhs but less than 150 lakhs		2,50,000	
F	Preparation of Exploration Proposal	Nos	5.1	2% or project cost or Rs. 500000 whichever is less		2,86,791.10	
G	Report Peer Review Charges	lumpsum	As per EC decision	30000		30,000	
H	Total Estimated Cost without GST					1,49,06,346	
I	Provision for GST (18%)					26,83,142	GST will be reimburse as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate
J	Total Estimated Cost with GST					1,75,89,488	
				Say, in Lakhs		175.89	
Note							
1	Strict adherence to the Ministry of Finance's and GFR guidelines is mandatory. Every transaction must adhere to GFR rule 21.						
2	In case of delay/non- performance, the appropriate action will be taken by competent authority against delinquent agency as per prevailing govt. of India rules/guidelines on procurement.						
3	If any part of the project is outsourced, the amount will be reimbursed as per Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.						
4	Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.						
5	Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.						
6	All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency						

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Annexure 1B															
Time schedule for Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for REE, Graphite and other associated minerals in Gopalapuram-Thotapalle Area, District- Krishna, Ntr & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh															
S. No.	Particulars	Months/ Days	1	2	3	4	REVIEW	5	6	7	8	REVIEW	9	10	
1	Camp Setting	months													
2	Geological Mapping & sampling	months													
3	Pitting	cu.m													
4	Drilling	m													
5	Geologist days	days													
6	Sampling days	days													
7	Camp winding	months													
8	Laboratory Studies	months													
9	Geologist days, HQ	days													
10	Report Writing with Peer Review	months													

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Agenda 103.1.2. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE & associated Mineralization in Gopalapuram area, District Krishna, NTR & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh. (Area: 117.60 Sq. Km.)

Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/AP/MECL/26-27/012

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 65D/14 and is predominantly underlain by garnetiferous sillimanite gneiss (khondalite), migmatite, pyroxene granulite and charnockite of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB). Quartz reefs/veins occur as intrusive bodies within the khondalites.
- GSI carried out Geochemical Mapping (FS: 2017–18) in Toposheet No. 65D/14, wherein 558 stream-sediment samples were collected. The Σ REE values ranged from 93.88–1,700 ppm, with total LREE and HREE values ranging from 78.81–1,573.66 ppm and 8.88–67.40 ppm, respectively.
- The agency informed the Committee that 27 NGCM stream-sediment samples were collected from the proposed Gopalapuram area. The maximum TREE+Sc+Y value was 1,468.47 ppm, with 9 samples (33%) recording values above 1,000 ppm. Maximum LREE and HREE values were 1,354.80 ppm and 80.89 ppm, respectively, with Ce and La being the major contributors to LREE and Gd contributing significantly to HREE.
- GSI carried out Specialised Thematic Mapping (STM) at 1:25,000 scale during FS: 2024–25, which reported anomalous REE concentrations of 700–1,055 ppm, indicating secondary REE enrichment above garnet-sillimanite gneiss of the Khondalite Group.
- GSI also carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for secondary REE enrichment in the EGMB and Pranhita–Godavari Valley during FS: 2021–24. REE mineralisation was identified mainly as heavy minerals in stream sediments, with monazite, zircon and allanite identified as REE-bearing mineral phases through SEM studies.
- In view of the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for REE and rare metals (RM). The proposed work comprises 1:12,500 scale large-scale geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- The Committee observed that the agency had submitted two adjacent G-4 proposals, namely Thotapalle (western part) and Gopalapuram (eastern part), for REE, graphite and associated minerals.
- In view of the water bodies/lake in the eastern part of Gopalapuram, the Committee advised the agency to combine the Thotapalle and Gopalapuram blocks into a single G-4 proposal and exclude the areas covered by water bodies and the lake.
- As advised by the Committee, the agency modified the block area and revised the project title to **“Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for REE, Graphite and Other Associated Minerals in Gopalapuram–Thotapalle Area, Districts Krishna, NTR & Eluru, Andhra Pradesh”**, which was approved under Agenda No. 103.1.1.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	More than 50% area of the proposed NPEA block overlaps with the G4 project of GSI for same commodity. Therefore, the proposal of NPEA may not be considered feasible in order to avoid duplication of work.
2	MECL	Not Applicable

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3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects however it share its boundary with NMEDT funded exploration block of MECL, besides some portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 35%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal as a separate block. The proposed area was combined with the Thotapalle Block to form a single G-4 stage exploration block, which was recommended for approval under Agenda No. 103.1.1.

Agenda 103.1.3. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for REE & RM in Bolda block, Nuapada District, Odisha. (Area: 3.10 sq. km.)

Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/OD/26-27/136

[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64L/11 and is predominantly underlain by granite gneiss, granite, granite mylonite, porphyritic granite, granite porphyry, granodiorite, monzogranite and nepheline syenite, with enclaves of quartz-sericite schist, phyllite and amphibolite.
- The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ). Despite the reported geological indications of REE and associated mineral potential, the proposal was not considered due to prevailing regulatory and accessibility constraints within the ESZ.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Two mineral Blocks; namely Ganiari and Karlakot Block which falls in the northern and south eastern part of the proposed block are being taken up by GSI for REE and RM exploration at G3 level in FS:2026-27 and 2027-28 respectively. In view of the above, the proposed block may be taken up for REE, RM and associated mineral exploration in G3 level on 1:2,000 scale.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium in and around the proposed block. No significant surface radioactive zone was delineated.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	The proposed area has been partially covered during F.S 1989-90 through geological mapping on 1:25000 scale for Limestone exploration. On Examination of group plan, it is observed that the block falls within the Bhel-Rajna REE & RM G4 GSI block (explored during 2024-25).
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block completely falls in Eco Sensitive Zone and major portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 91%).

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) and is subject to applicable regulatory restrictions.

Agenda 103.1.4. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for REE & RM in Jharanamal block, Nuapada District, Odisha. (Area: 7.14 sq. km.)**Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/OD/26-27/138****[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd]**

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64L/11 and is predominantly underlain by granite gneiss, granite, granite mylonite, porphyritic granite, granite porphyry, granodiorite, monzogranite and nepheline syenite, with enclaves of quartz-sericite schist, phyllite and amphibolite.
- b. The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ). Despite the reported geological indications of REE and associated mineral potential, the proposal was not considered due to prevailing regulatory and accessibility constraints within the ESZ.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Two mineral Blocks; namely Ganiari and Karlakot Block which falls in the northern and south eastern part of the proposed block are being taken up by GSI for REE and RM exploration at G3 level in FS:2026-27 and 2027-28 respectively. In view of the above, the outcome of two projects of GSI (Ganiari and Karlakot Block) and one recommended NMET block (Bolda) may be evaluated before taking up of similar project proposed for Jharanamal block as all this blocks belong to the same geological set up.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium in and around the proposed block. No significant surface radioactive zone was delineated.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	The proposed area has been partially covered during F.S 1989-90 through geological mapping on 1:25000 scale for Limestone exploration. On Examination of group plan, it is observed that the block falls within the Bhel-Rajna REE & RM G4 GSI block (explored during 2024-25).
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block completely falls in Eco Sensitive Zone and major portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 88%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) and is subject to applicable regulatory restrictions.

Agenda 103.1.5. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for REE & RM in Deodarha block, Nuapada District, Odisha. (Area: 5.54 sq. km.)

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Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/OD/26-27/137

[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64L/11 and is predominantly underlain by granite gneiss, granite, granite mylonite, porphyritic granite, granite porphyry, granodiorite, monzogranite and nepheline syenite, with enclaves of quartz-sericite schist, phyllite and amphibolite.
- b. The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ). Despite the reported geological indications of REE and associated mineral potential, the proposal was not considered due to prevailing regulatory and accessibility constraints within the ESZ.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Two mineral Blocks; namely Ganiari and Karlakot Block which falls in the northern and south eastern part of the proposed block are being taken up by GSI for REE and RM exploration at G3 level in FS:2026-27 and 2027-28 respectively. In view of the above, the outcome of two projects of GSI (Ganiari and Karlakot Block) and one recommended NMET block (Bolda) may be evaluated before taking up of similar project proposed for Deodarha block as all this blocks belong to the same geological set up.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium in and around the proposed block. No significant surface radioactive zone was delineated.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	On examination of the proposed block, it is observed that the proposed block does not cover by DoMG. On Examination of group plan, it is observed that the block falls within the Bhel-Rajna REE & RM G4 GSI block (explored during 2024-25).
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however proposed block completely falls in Eco Sensitive Zone and major portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 62%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) and is subject to applicable regulatory restrictions.

Agenda 103.1.6. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Graphite in Barla area, Bolangir District, Odisha. (Area: 69 sq. km.)

Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/OD/26-27/139

[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64L/15 and comprises khondalite, quartzite, calc-granulite and garnetiferous granite gneiss, with younger pegmatite and quartz veins occurring as later intrusive bodies.
- b. GSI carried out geophysical investigations for regional assessment of graphite resources in Bolangir District, Odisha (FS: 1986–87). The SP survey delineated

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- anomalous zones over an aggregate strike length of about 1 km, including 10 anomaly centres, of which three south of Turekela and in the Beheramunda area were recommended for exploratory drilling.
- c. State DGM, Odisha carried out a Mineral Potential Survey in parts of Bolangir District (FS: 1986–91), during which several graphite occurrences were delineated. The structurally controlled graphite mineralisation is mainly hosted by garnetiferous granite gneiss.
 - d. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-3 stage exploration to assess the resource potential of graphite, comprising 1:2000 scale detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 333 category.
 - e. The Committee was informed that the northern part of the proposed area overlapped with Cluster-11 allotted to OMC and two existing taken-over graphite mining leases. The agency excluded the overlapping areas and revised the block to approximately 41.90 sq. km.
 - f. The Committee observed that only few isolated graphite occurrences have been reported within the modified block, and advised the agency to consult the available GSI 1:10000-scale data/report and undertake detailed field verification.
 - g. The agency was advised to establish the continuity and extent of graphite-bearing bands through systematic channel sampling and reassess/rationalise the block boundary, including adjoining free and prospective areas.
 - h. The Committee further advised the agency to examine the potential for other mineralisation, including pegmatitic bodies and associated critical/rare metals, before resubmitting the proposal.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	In the northern part of the proposed block there is overlapping issue with cluster block (cluster-11, allotted to OMC). Two taken over mining leases for graphite exists within the proposed block. In view of the above observations, the proposed area is not recommended with the present form.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	On examination of the proposed block, it is observed that the proposed area was covered during F.S 1986-91 through geological mapping on 1:25000 scale. Two graphite occurrences are identified outside the cluster but within the proposed block. And on examination of the group plan, it is observed that the area overlaps with Cluster-11 Magurjungle-Turkela OMC block .
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however some portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 52%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as only a few isolated graphite occurrences have been reported in the proposed area. The agency was advised to undertake ground verification, consult available GSI data, carry out

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systematic channel sampling to establish the continuity of graphite-bearing bands, suitably rationalise the block boundary, and assess associated mineralisation before resubmission.

Agenda 103.1.7. Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Ni-Co and associated Minerals in Kalanakatte block, Shivamogga District, Karnataka. (Area: 3.59 sq. km.)

Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/KA/26-27/140)

[Implementing Agency: M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 43O/09 and is predominantly underlain by serpentinite–peridotite, meta-pyroxenite and birbrite (silicified serpentinite) belonging to the mafic–ultramafic complex.
- GSI carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for Ni-Cr and PGE in the Honasekette Block, Shivamogga District, Karnataka (FS: 2024–25). Surface and trench sampling indicated anomalous Ni, Cr and Co values.
- Five mineralised prospects—Huliyar Ramanakoppa, Basavanagudda, West of Kalanakatte, NW of Kambadal Hosuru and SW of Yeraganahalu—were delineated, with Ni values of 0.14–0.64% and Co values of 5–165 ppm, indicating enrichment associated with ultramafic-derived regolith.
- Based on the G-4 stage exploration results, the agency proposed the block for G-3 stage exploration to assess the Ni-Co and associated mineralisation potential, comprising 1:2000 scale detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 333 category.
- The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted the anomalous Ni-Cr-Co values and favourable mafic–ultramafic geological setting established through earlier GSI investigations. However, as approximately 45% of the proposed area falls within a Tiger Reserve, the Committee did not recommend the proposal for G-3 stage exploration.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	GSI has carried out an exploration project in the NPEA proposed block during FS 2024-25. Analytical data shows that Ni ranges upto 6400 ppm, chromium ranges upto 4600 ppm and Co ranging upto 175 ppm. The reconnaissance exploration carried out in study area shows that the area may be feasible for further exploration.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however approx. 45% of the area overlap with existing Tiger Corridor and major portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 98%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as approximately 45% of the proposed area falls within a Tiger Reserve.

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**Agenda 103.1.8. Detailed Gold Exploration (G4 Level) of Javakula Gold Block
C, Sri Satya Sai District, Andhra Pradesh
Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/AP/26-27/142
[Implementing Agency: M/s Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt Ltd]**

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 57J/08 and forms part of the Veligallu Greenstone Belt (VGB) of the Eastern Dharwar Craton (EDC). The major lithounits exposed include metavolcanic and metasedimentary rocks, comprising metabasalts, felsic volcanics, banded iron formation (BIF), quartzite and amphibolite.
- b. The Veligallu Greenstone Belt is traversed by numerous shear zones, faults and quartz reefs, which have acted as conduits for hydrothermal fluids and are considered favourable for gold mineralisation.
- c. GSI carried out investigations for gold mineralisation in the northern part of the Veligallu Greenstone Belt, covering parts of Cuddapah, Anantapur and Chittoor districts, Andhra Pradesh (FS: 2004–06). Three prominent mineralised zones at Tellakonda, Tumukunta and Gandimadugu were delineated based on encouraging gold values.
- d. GSI also carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for gold and associated minerals in the northern part of the Veligallu Schist Belt and adjoining areas of Cuddapah and Anantapur districts during FS: 2017–18.
- e. In view of the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage exploration for gold mineralisation, comprising 1:2000 scale detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and scout drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- f. The Committee observed that the proposed area completely overlaps with GSI's G-4 stage investigation (FS: 2017–18) and partly overlaps with G-3 stage exploration carried out during FS: 2004–06.
- g. The Committee noted that MERIT, O/o Directorate of Mines & Geology, has also completed a G-4 level investigation over 10 sq. km in Javakula Gold Block-C, substantially overlapping the proposed area. The area is largely soil-covered/cultivated, with sporadic granite outcrops and E–W trending dolerite/gabbro dykes.
- h. No significant surface indications of gold mineralisation were reported in the northern, eastern and western parts of the MERIT-investigated block, and the existing GSI/MERIT investigations cover a major portion of the proposed area.
- i. In view of the substantial overlap with previous exploration and absence of significant mineralisation indicators or adequate geological justification, the Committee did not consider the proposal for further G-4 stage exploration.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed NPEA block completely overlaps with one G4 block explored by GSI during FS 2017-18. Further, the proposed area also falls within the on-going RMT project of GSI, in which mapping, GP survey and scout drilling components are involved. Therefore, the proposed area may not be considered feasible for further investigation to avoid the duplication work for the same commodity.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.

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4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Mineral Exploration Research and Innovation Trust (MERIT), O/o DoMG has submitted a detailed G4 level Geological report on Javakula Gold Block-C over an extent of 10 Sq. Km, Nambulapulikunta (M), Sri Satya Sai District. As per the Geological report of the MERIT, the block seems to be potential for further exploration. Further it is submitted that opinion of the GSI may also be obtained in this regard.
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed area has already been explored multiple times for gold mineralisation by GSI and MERIT, DMG, Karnataka, without any significant mineralisation indicators being established.

Agenda 103.1.9. Proposal for Preliminary Exploration (G3) for REE and Associated Rare Metals in Takooberi-Bilasar Block (Area: 25.96 Sq. Km), District-Barmer, State-Rajasthan Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/RJ/26-27/143

[Implementing Agency: M/s ReVal Consulting Private Limited]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 40O/14 and forms part of the Sarnu–Dandali Alkaline Complex, Barmer District, Rajasthan. The area comprises a variety of alkaline rocks, including carbonatite, phonolite, tephriphonolite, andesite, trachyte and foidite.
- GSI carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for REE and rare metal mineralisation in the Sarnu–Dandali area, Barmer District (FS: 2018–19), during which 110 bedrock samples were collected for chemical analysis. The average Σ REE content across lithologies in the Kamthai area was about 0.8%.
- The carbonatite samples recorded the highest REE concentrations, with Σ REE ranging from 0.06% to 16%. Phonolite/tephriphonolite recorded an average Σ REE of about 0.06%, while foidite samples showed Σ REE values of 0.03–0.35%.
- In the Dandali–Gangali area, a few basalt samples recorded Σ REE values up to 0.1%. Carbonatite samples from Sarnu recorded 0.0079–0.08% Σ REE, while an ijolite sample collected west of Sarnu, near Akal Nadi, recorded 0.1% Σ REE.
- In view of the above exploration results, the agency proposed the block for G-3 stage exploration for REE and rare metal (RM) mineralisation, comprising 1:2000 scale detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and scout drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 333 category.
- The Committee observed that the proposed area is predominantly covered by aeolian sand, with very limited rock exposures, and lacks surface indications and favourable lithounits for REE mineralisation.
- The proposed area of 25.96 sq. km was considered relatively large for G-3 stage exploration, and a well-defined mineralised zone has not yet been established.
- The agency was advised to undertake field verification, collect representative samples and examine available GSI reports/data, including confirmation of any previous G-4 exploration, to avoid duplication. The availability of airborne geophysical data may also be examined.
- Based on the field and analytical results, the agency was advised to rationalise the

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block boundary and submit a G-4 stage proposal for in-principle consideration.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Based on previous G4 exploration work carried out by GSI in Sarnu-Dandali area, Barmer district, the block may also be prospective for REE and rare metal mineralization, However, the 25.96 sq km area proposed by NPEA is considered too large for G3 exploration work.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	DMGR has not conducted any exploration activities for said mineral, thus, no comments from DMGR. This proposal area conflict with 01 held minor mineral mining leases of area 1 hectare. consent for exploration for this proposal is given for area excluding minor mineral mining lease area.
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal for G-3 stage exploration, as the area is predominantly covered by aeolian sand with limited rock exposure, with no significant surface indications or favourable lithounits for REE mineralisation.

Further, the 25.96 sq. km area is considered too large for G-3 stage exploration, with no well-defined mineralised zone established.

The agency was advised to undertake ground verification and sampling, review available GSI and airborne geophysical data, and suitably rework the proposal at G-4 stage before resubmission.

Agenda 103.1.10. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) REE & Associated Mineralization in Dhavala-Takhtpura-Sumergarh Area, Jalore District, Rajasthan

Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/RJ/26-27/221

[Implementing Agency: M/s Wattfin Ventures Pvt. Ltd.]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 45C/11 & 45C/12. The area is predominantly covered by soil, with isolated rock exposures in the eastern and southeastern parts, comprising biotite granite, granite and granite porphyry, along with subordinate rhyolite, basalt, andesite/andesite porphyry, dolerite and quartzite.
- GSI carried out a regional integrated survey for tungsten, tin and associated minerals in the Abu–Sirohi–Pali–Jador sector of Southwest Rajasthan during FS: 1980–81. Stream sediments draining the leucogranites recorded anomalous W and Sn concentrations, reaching up to 200 ppm W and 20–30 ppm Sn, indicating favourable potential for tungsten–tin mineralisation.
- GSI carried out Geophysical Mapping (NGPM) in Toposheet Nos. 45C/04, 08, 11, 12 and 16 covering parts of Jalore, Barmer, Sirohi and Pali districts, Rajasthan (FS: 2021–22). The proposed block falls within the H5 gravity anomaly zone, interpreted

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as a continuous body largely concealed beneath the sand and silt cover of the Thar Formation.

- d. GSI also conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for REE and rare-metal mineralisation in the Ahor–Beria–Ajitpura area, Jalore District (FS: 2022–23). Encouraging values of Sr up to 2,343 ppm, Nb up to 331 ppm and TREE+Y up to 1,835.05 ppm were reported, with enrichment of LREE, particularly La and Ce, over HREE.
- e. The agency informed the Committee that field traverses and sampling were undertaken in the proposed block, with total REE values ranging from 823–1,453 ppm, averaging approximately 1,076 ppm.
- f. Based on the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage exploration for REE and rare-metal (RM) mineralisation, comprising 1:12500 scale large-scale geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and scout drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- g. The proposal was earlier reviewed in the 100th TCC-1 meeting, wherein the agency was advised to undertake field verification, collect representative samples covering the entire proposed area, and submit a revised proposal for in-principle consideration, subject to encouraging analytical results.
- h. The Committee observed that the REE analysis of samples from the proposed block was carried out by a non-accredited laboratory; hence, the analytical data was not considered for evaluation.
- i. As requested by the agency, the proposal was deferred for submission of revised supporting analytical data in the next TCC. The Committee also advised the agency to suitably revise the block boundary by excluding constrained/overlapping areas, wherever necessary.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed exploration area demonstrates considerable feasibility for investigating rare earth elements (REE) and their associated minerals. The proposed block submitted by NPEA is strategically positioned in proximity to three G4 projects that have been proposed by the GSI in FS 2025-26 and 2026-27.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	Multiple Mining/Quarry Leases of Minor Mineral are present within the proposed block. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects however the some area falls in Recorded Forest Area (approx 11.96%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal at this stage, as the REE analytical data were generated by a non-accredited laboratory and hence were not considered.

The proposal was deferred for submission of revised analytical data in the next TCC, along with suitable revision of the block boundary by excluding constrained/overlapping areas, wherever necessary.

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Agenda 103.2: Cost Evaluation of New Project Proposals

The cost evaluation of the proposals was carried out, and the corresponding cost sheets are enclosed along with the recommended project descriptions.

Agenda 103.3: Project Evaluation for In-Principle Approval

Agenda 103.3.1. Reconnaissance survey for Limestone in Yavatmal Block, Chadrapur district, Maharashtra.

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/MH/P/26-27/176

[Implementing Agency: M/s Indian Mine Planners and Cons. Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The agency did not attend the meeting.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	G4 stage investigation carried out in FS. 1976-77 in the adjoining blocks identified cement-grade limestone in parts of the toposheet no. 56I/13. However, the potentiality and economic viability of the limestone present in the proposed block were not assessed. The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or upcoming projects of GSI.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The area is already covered under G4 item for the same commodity by DGM Maharashtra during FS 1996-1999. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The project was not reviewed as the agency did not attend the meeting.

Agenda 103.3.2. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Iron in KA-JG Halli area, Chitradurga-Tumakuru District, Karnataka

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/KA/P/26-27/179

[Implementing Agency: M/s HITTITES Exploration]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 57C/09 & 57C/13 and is predominantly underlain by Banded Iron Formation (BIF), ferruginous quartzite, amphibolite, hornblende schist, quartz-mica schist, phyllite, granite gneiss, pegmatite and quartz veins, with a widespread lateritic cover.
- b. GSI carried out investigation for gold in the Javanagondanahalli (Anesidri) area, Chitradurga District, Karnataka (FS: 1985-87). Surface and trench/pit samples recorded anomalous gold values of up to 3.4 g/t over 0.50 m width.
- c. Sub-surface drilling indicated that the mineralised zones are patchy, with no established strike or depth continuity.

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- d. GSI also carried out P-II stage preliminary investigation for gold around Halekallu, Jajikalgudda, Anesidri-Ajjanahalli, Kalinganahalli, Honnabetta and Kachenahalli (Haltibetta) prospects covering parts of the Chitradurga and Nagamangala Schist Belts during FS: 2002-04.
- e. E-I stage exploration for gold was carried out in the Ajjanahalli East Block (Block-A), Sira Taluk, Tumkur District, Karnataka (FS: 2004-06), wherein a tentative resource of 0.58 million tonnes at an average grade of 1.76 g/t Au, at a 0.5 g/t cut-off, was estimated.
- f. The agency informed the Committee that field verification and sampling of the BIF horizon were undertaken. Analytical results recorded 45.15% Fe₂O₃ and 11.25% MnO, indicating ferruginous and manganese-rich lithologies with potential for further exploration.
- g. In view of the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for iron ore and associated mineralisation, comprising 1:12500 scale large-scale geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geochemical survey and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- h. The Committee observed that the proposed area of 10 sq. km is too small for G-4 stage exploration and advised the agency to undertake a detailed field visit and systematic channel sampling from north to south across the block, covering different BIF bands at suitable intervals, followed by Fe₂O₃ analysis.
- i. Based on the analytical results, the agency was advised to suitably modify the proposal for G-3 stage exploration and submit a DPR with adequate technical justification.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The exploration carried out by GSI in and around the proposed NPEA block is mainly for gold, however, The BIF bands present in the area may be tested for both Iron ore and gold mineralization. The area may be feasible for further exploration.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium in and around the proposed block. No significant surface radioactive zone was delineated.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however a some portion fall in Recorded Forest Area.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal in its present form, as the proposed area of 10 sq. km is considered too small for G-4 stage exploration.

The agency was advised to undertake field verification and systematic north-south channel sampling across different BIF bands, analyse the Fe₂O₃ content, and, based on the results, modify the proposal for G-3 stage exploration and submit a DPR with adequate technical justification.

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Agenda 103.3.3. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Titanium and Associated Mineralization around Bareda Block, Saraikela Kharsawan District, Jharkhand

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/JH/P/26-27/199

[Implementing Agency: M/s GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 73J/01 and is underlain by carbon phyllite, carbonaceous chert, hornblende–actinolite schist and cherty quartzite.
- b. GSI carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for gold and associated minerals in the Amjhor–Hatiyadi area covering parts of Saraikela-Kharsawan and East Singhbhum districts, Jharkhand, during FS: 2022–23.
- c. Integrated geological and geochemical investigations indicated significant potential for Au, Mn, Ti, phosphate and V. Zone-2, comprising hornblende–actinolite schist, was identified as highly prospective for polymetallic mineralisation, with TiO_2 values of 2.56–4.21%, P_2O_5 up to 3.1% and V up to 697 ppm.
- d. Based on the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-3 stage preliminary exploration to assess titanium and associated mineralisation, comprising 1:2000 scale detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 333 category.
- e. The Committee observed that consistent analytical values and a well-defined mineralised zone have not been established, and the proposal cannot be considered solely on the basis of available GSI data.
- f. The agency was advised to undertake field verification and systematic sampling, delineate well-defined mineralised zones and analyse the samples. If the results are encouraging, the agency may submit a DPR for further consideration.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed G3 block was previously investigated by GSI, SU: Jharkhand under FS 2022–23 at G4 stage, with spouted encouraging TiO_2 values in Hornblende–Actinolite Schist. However, due to limited reconnaissance sampling and absence of systematic scout drilling, further appraisal is required to establish geological confidence. GSI, SU: Jharkhand would prioritize an upgraded programme; however, due to manpower constraints, immediate implementation may not be feasible. In view of the above, a suitable decision may kindly be taken.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium in and around the proposed block. No significant surface radioactive zone was delineated.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however a some portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx.7%).

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal in its present form, as adequate field and analytical evidence for a well-defined mineralized zone has not been established.

The agency was advised to undertake field verification and systematic sampling, delineate and analyse the mineralized zones, and submit a DPR for further consideration if the results are encouraging.

Agenda 103.3.4. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Strontium & associated critical minerals in the Pohar - Roopsi Block (103 Sq.Km), Jaisalmer District, Rajasthan.

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/RJ/P/26-27/195

[Implementing Agency: M/s Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd.]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 40I/16 and comprises sedimentary sequences including fossiliferous limestone, calcareous and ferruginous sandstone, bioclastic limestone, gypsiferous shale, marl, phosphatic and ferruginous shale, along with Quaternary aeolian sand and kankar of the Thar Desert Formation.
- GSI carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for Low Silica SMS/Cement Grade Limestone in the Pohar area, Jaisalmer District, Rajasthan, during FS: 2017–18.
- GSI conducted G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for Scandium and associated minerals in the Dand Dungar–Charu–Kanod area, Jaisalmer District (FS: 2022–23), wherein two Sc-enriched zones were delineated. Of the channel samples analysed, 25 recorded Sc values above 30 ppm, including 20 samples exceeding 43 ppm.
- GSI also carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration in the Manpiya–Mulsagar–Lodorva Block (FS: 2023–24) to assess scandium and associated critical-mineral potential within the Jurassic sedimentary sequences of the Jaisalmer and Baisakhi Formations. Two Sc-enriched zones were delineated near Mulsagar, Manpiya and Mungakalen ka Khar within the carbonate facies of the Badabag Member.
- Analytical results of 165 channel and bedrock samples indicated that 41 samples recorded Sc values above 50 ppm, with several exceeding 75 ppm. The maximum Sc value of 123 ppm was recorded in ochreous nodules of the Baisakhi Formation, while marl of the Badabag Member recorded values up to 99 ppm.
- Based on the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage exploration for Sr and associated critical minerals, comprising 1:12500 scale large-scale geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that the proposed block falls within the Great Indian Bustard boundary of the Desert National Park, which is an Eco-Sensitive Zone, as per the information provided by DGM, Rajasthan. Hence, the proposal was not considered.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed NPEA block is showing partial overlapping (53.41 sq km) with the approved G4 stage block, Pohar area of GSI, FS 2017-18. Based on the previous G4 exploration work in the Pohar Block, Jaisalmer District, the proposed area may be considered for G4 exploration, ensuring that overlapping areas are avoided.

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2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	4 held ML present in the area. The area falls in GIB boundary zone
5	NMEDT	The block falls within the Priority area for Great Indian Bustard (GIB). The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the proposed block falls within the Great Indian Bustard area of the Desert National Park, an Eco-Sensitive Zone, as informed by DGM, Rajasthan.

Agenda 103.3.5. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) Mn, TiO₂, REE & Associated Mineralization in Bagra-Lowalang block, Chatra District, Jharkhand (G4)

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/JH/P/26-27/185

[Implementing Agency: M/s Wattfin Ventures Private Limited]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 72D/12 & 72D/16 and comprises migmatitic gneiss, amphibolite, K-feldspar granite, pegmatite, ultramafics, meta-dolerite/meta-gabbro, dolerite, phyllonite and Gondwana sediments.
- GSI carried out Specialised Thematic Mapping (STM) at 1:25,000 scale in the Hosir Konchi–Jaled area (Hesatu–Belbathan Polymetallic Belt), Chatra District, Jharkhand (FS: 2022–24). Analytical results of bedrock and petrochemical samples recorded MnO values of 0.5–11.18% in clinopyroxene-garnet ultramafic rocks, with associated Zn values up to 4,239 ppm.
- TiO₂ values of 1–3.63% were recorded in magnetic dolerite of the Bagra area, while pegmatite/felsic intrusive samples showed highly anomalous total REE values up to 8,000 ppm, with significant HREE enrichment, including Y up to 2,500 ppm and Yb up to 2,100 ppm.
- Stream-sediment data generated under NGCM in Toposheet Nos. 72D/12 and 72D/16 recorded Ce values of 73–693 ppm, indicating a possible concealed source, while Zr values up to 4,239 ppm indicate significant zircon enrichment within the proposed block.
- The proposed area exhibits La values ranging from 42–405 ppm and total REE values ranging from 33.75–8,025.30 ppm, indicating significant REE enrichment.
- Based on the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-4 stage exploration for Mn, TiO₂, REE and associated mineralization, comprising 1:12500 scale large-scale geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 334 category.
- The Committee observed that 45% of the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone and another 45% within a Wildlife Sanctuary, leaving only the eastern part free from major encumbrances. The available analytical data for Mn, TiO₂ and REE in the free area were not encouraging.
- Accordingly, the proposal was not considered. The agency was advised to review adjoining areas free from encumbrances, undertake field verification and sampling in any identified prospective area, and submit a revised proposal for in-principle

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approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	GSI Ranchi conducted STM in Chhotanagpur Granite Gneissic Complex in and around Hosir-Konchi-Jaled area during the FS 2022-24. GSI plans to advance this item to G4-stage investigation in the upcoming field seasons. Since the foundational work was executed by GSI, it is mandatory for GSI to conduct the G4 investigation. Consequently, this area cannot be spared for any other agency.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out G4 stage of exploration for Uranium in and around the proposed block, however, there is no ongoing exploration /reconnaissance project. In view of known potentiality, analysis of uranium may also be included in the analysis list and intimation regarding drilling of the boreholes may be communicated to AMD for gamma ray logging.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however approx. 78% of the area fall in Eco Sensitive Zone & Lowalang Wildlife Sanctuary (Protected Area).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as 45% of the proposed area falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone and another 45% within a Wildlife Sanctuary, leaving only the eastern part free from encumbrances. The available analytical data for Mn, TiO₂ and REE in the free area are not encouraging.

Agenda 103.3.6. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Copper and associated mineralization in Khakliya Khera Area, Rajsamand District, Rajasthan

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/RJ/P/26-27/183

[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 45K/04 and comprises silicified quartz-biotite-chlorite-sericite schist, garnetiferous mica schist and amphibolite.
- The Committee reviewed the comments from the concerned agencies and noted that a major portion of the proposed area overlaps with a GM block handed over by GSI. DGM, Rajasthan further informed that the block has been auctioned under Composite Licence (CL). Hence, the proposal was not considered.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Based on G4 exploration work in Shambupura Block, Rajsamand District (G4) during FS 2019-20, the proposed

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		area seems potential for copper and associated mineralization.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	The proposed block overlap with already auctioned Composite License for Basemetal mineralization.
5	NMEDT	One auctionable G-4/GM block for Basemetal mineralization overlaps with the proposed block besides, multiple QL/ML for Minor Minerals lies in the periphery of the block. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as a major portion of the proposed area overlaps with the GM block handed over by GSI, and DGM, Rajasthan has informed that the block has already been auctioned under Composite Licence (CL).

Agenda 103.3.7. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Copper and associated mineralization in Deori Khera Area, Rajsamand District, Rajasthan

Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/RJ/P/26-27/182

[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 45G/16 and is underlain by silicified quartz-biotite-chlorite-sericite schist, garnetiferous mica schist and amphibolite.
- GSI carried out G-4 stage reconnaissance exploration for base metal and associated mineralisation in the Shambupura Block, Rajsamand District, Rajasthan (FS: 2019–20). The adjoining Shambupura area recorded surface manifestations of copper mineralisation, including pyrite and chalcopyrite, hosted mainly by granite gneiss interlayered with amphibolite, which also occurs in the proposed block.
- In the Pipli Ahran–Khakliyakhara area, copper mineralisation is manifested by malachite stains and thin veins of pyrite and chalcopyrite, associated with granite gneiss–amphibolite and amphibolite of the Asan and Tanwan Groups. Three BRS samples from amphibolite recorded anomalous Cu values of 0.20–0.25%.
- GSI also carried out G-2 stage general exploration for copper and associated mineralisation in the Gangas Block, Mangalwar Complex, Rajsamand District, wherein an estimated 0.76 million tonnes of copper resource averaging 0.68% Cu at a 0.20% cut-off was delineated.
- In view of the above exploration data, the agency proposed the block for G-3 stage exploration for copper and associated mineralisation, comprising 1:2000 scale detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching and exploratory drilling for resource assessment under UNFC 333 category.
- The Committee observed that the proposal is based on only one positive analytical value, with no mineralised zone established; hence, the available data are insufficient to undertake G-3 stage exploration.
- The agency was advised to undertake field verification, examine target and shear

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zones, collect systematic channel samples and establish the continuity/extension of mineralisation. If encouraging results are obtained, a revised proposal may be submitted for in-principle approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Based on G4 exploration work in Shambupura Block, Rajsamand District (G4) during FS 2019-20, the proposed area seems potential for copper and associated mineralization.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, ESA/ESZ, Tiger Corridor, Protected Area or RFA as per PM Gatishakti portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as it is based on only one positive analytical value and no mineralized zone has been established, making the available data inadequate for G-3 stage exploration.

The agency was advised to undertake field verification, examine target/shear zones, collect channel samples and establish the extent and continuity of mineralization; if encouraging results are obtained, a revised proposal may be submitted for in-principle approval.

Agenda 103.3.8. Preliminary exploration (G3) for REE & RM in Khapa block, Bhandara District, Maharashtra

Proposal ID: ME/IN/--Select--/MH/P/26-27/181

[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Limited]

- The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 55O/10 and is underlain by Tirodi Biotite Gneiss (TBG), Sausar Group metasediments, foliated granite and Alesur granite, with numerous simple and complex pegmatite bodies.
- The Committee reviewed the comments from the concerned agencies and noted that a major portion of the proposed area overlaps with a NMEDT funded block. Hence, the proposal was not considered.
- The committee advised the agency to consult the report and study the adjoining areas for potential target areas.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
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1	GSI	Based on the work carried out by GSI during the G4 exploration project, a total of 15 samples fall within the proposed block. Bulk bedrock and stream-sediment samples show relatively low Σ REE values, with maximum concentrations of 554.6 ppm and 947 ppm, respectively; however, heavy-mineral concentrates record 2.5-3.9% Σ REE. Talus heavy fractions also show encouraging enrichment, reaching 7.4% Σ REE and 1.1% Y, with 11 of 28 samples exceeding 1% Σ REE. While the results indicate REE enrichment in heavy fractions, the evidence from bulk samples is not yet conclusive.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block overlap with NMEDT funded projects Rongha Block explored for Mn mineralization, and some portion fall in Recorded Forest Area (approx. 66%).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as nearly 70% of the proposed block overlaps with an NMEDT-funded manganese exploration project. The agency was advised to consult the relevant report and examine the adjoining areas to identify prospective target zones before resubmission.

Agenda 103.4: Exploration Incentive for Auctioned Block

Agenda 103.3.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Graphite in Dindo-Belkurta-Basera Block, District: Surguja, Chhattisgarh.

[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- The agency informed that their block under NMEDT funded project titled "Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Graphite in Dindo-Belkurta-Basera Block, District: Surguja, Chhattisgarh" has been auctioned.
- As per the provision of SoC of NMEDT, the agency is claiming for incentive for auctioned block.
- The committee was informed that the project was allocated to DGM Chhattisgarh and with MMPL Pvt. Ltd. (erstwhile Maheshwari Mining Pvt Ltd.) being the implementing agency.
- It was also informed that final bills of project are yet to be settled.
- The Committee reviewed the proposal and advised that comments of DGM, Chhattisgarh, to whom the project was allocated, may also be obtained.
- The Committee kept the decision in abeyance pending settlement of the final bills of the project.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee kept the decision in abeyance pending settlement of the final bills of the project.

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103.5: Review of Ongoing Exploration Project & Timeline Extension

Agenda 103.5.1. Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Lithium, Niobium, Tantalum, Titanium & REE Minerals in and around Bengpal–Ellingnar-Kumakoleng Block, Sukhma, and Bastar Districts, Chhattisgarh [Implementing Agency: M/s UEIPL]

- a. UEIPL informed the committee that the project was approved in the 36th EC Meeting held on 29th July, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 21st August, 2024 with timeline of 12 months (up to 20.08.2025) and approved cost was INR 93,37,959/-.
- b. The agency informed the committee that a total of 28.25 sq.km area has been mapped on 1:12500 scale. The lithological units encountered include Pegmatite, Granite, Granite Pegmatite, Amphibolite, Metabasic rocks, and Quartz-mica schist.
- c. Along with mapping, 100 bedrock samples have been collected during the course of the field investigation. Out of 100 samples, 39 samples have been analysed using ICPMS method and 6 samples analysed using XRF.
- d. The agency apprised the committee, that two samples of Lepidolite from the southeastern part of the project area have shown encouraging lithium values of 6,338 ppm and 24,926 ppm, respectively. Rubidium values ranging from 1,180 ppm to 33,880 ppm have been recorded seven samples, collected from both the south-eastern and northern (Darbha Granite) parts of the block. Further in the northern part the leucocratic granite (part of Darbha Granite) is showing 1936 ppm value for LREE.
- e. The Committee noted that the agency had undertaken geological mapping in patches and identified three mineralized zones. It was further observed that, against the approved quantum of 250 BRS samples, the agency had collected 100 BRS samples, which was not proportionate with the extent of geological mapping carried out as per NQT.
- f. However, the agency also apprised the committee that work is delayed due to strong local resistance. The agency requested one-year extension to accomplish the remaining targets, citing local issues that have caused inordinate delays.
- g. The committee reviewed the progress of work and suggested the extension would be granted after consultation with DGM, Chhattisgarh regarding the prevailing ground condition in the area.
- h. The agency was instructed to submit all relevant documentary evidence to NMEDT to justify the delay and support the request for an extension.
- i. The committee deferred the decision of timeline extension to the next TCC meeting after consultation with DGM, Chhattisgarh. The committee also suggested NMEDT to write to DGM regarding the issue faced by the agency during execution of the project.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the decision on extension of the project timeline to the next TCC meeting, subject to consultation with DGM, Chhattisgarh. The agency was advised to submit all relevant documentary evidence to NMEDT justifying the delay and subsequent communications with the concerned authorities.

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Agenda 103.5.2. Reconnaissance survey for Nickel, Cobalt, PGE and Chromium in and around Lungher and Sihai area, Ukhrul district, Manipur

[Implementing Agency: M/s UEIPL]

- a. The project was recommended in 64th TCC meeting held on 25th, 29th & 30th April 2024 and approved in 35th EC meeting held on 16th May 2024. The sanction order was issued on 6th June 2024 with approved cost was ₹1,16,27,890/- with time period of 12 months up to 5th June 2025. Change in the project title and timeline extension of 12 months up to 5th June 2026 was recommended in 13th TCC-II meeting held on 22nd, 23rd, 24th September 2025. In 2nd PSC meeting held on 4th November 2025 the PSC return the proposal back to TCC-II with instruction to obtain comments in the matter from the State Government and place the agenda in the forthcoming PSC meeting.
- b. Timeline of the project was initially extended 05.02.2026 in 42nd EC meeting held on 2.6.2026. Further, the timeline extension upto 5.6.2026 was accorded by PSC at its 3rd meeting held on 15.12.2025.
- c. UEIPL informed the committee, after completing mapping and sampling over 15.25 sq.km area, fieldwork is stopped due to local resistance from Sihai Khullen village and approximately 45% of the initially approved work programme has been completed so far.
- d. Further, in view of the prevailing situation in Manipur, they have been advised not to enter the project area for carrying out field activities at present.
- e. Therefore, the agency requested the committee to consider one-year extension to accomplish the remaining targets, in view of the prevailing condition in Manipur and favourable mineralization in the area.
- f. The agency informed that no exploration work has been carried out since December, 2024 due to the prevailing law-and-order situation in the State of Manipur.
- g. The Committee instructed the agency to submit all correspondence with the District Administration, local authorities and the Forest Department to the NMEDT Secretariat.
- h. The Committee reviewed the progress of the project and recommended its foreclosure in view of the prevailing law-and-order situation in the State of Manipur, that has adversely affected the execution of the project.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended in-principle fore-closure of the project due to law-and-order situation in the State of Manipur. The agency may bring cost sheet for revision in next TCC.

Agenda 103.5.3. Preliminary Exploration for Nickel, Cobalt, Chromium & PGE minerals in Gamnom Block, Kamjong District, Manipur

[Implementing Agency: M/s UEIPL]

- a. UEIPL informed the committee that the project was approved in the 38th EC Meeting held on 29th November, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 21st August, 2024 with timeline of 18 months (up to 05.07.2025) and approved cost was INR 6,11,99,849/-.

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- b. The agency also apprised the Committee that the work could not be initiated due to strong local resistance and lack of grant of forest clearance. In view of the local issues and the consequent inordinate delay, the agency requested a one-year extension to initiate the work and achieve the stipulated targets.
- c. The agency also informed that NOC from local villages and forest department for the work is still under process and due to the prevailing situation in Manipur, they have been advised not to enter the project area for carrying out field activities at present.
- d. The Committee instructed the agency to submit all correspondences with the District Administration and the local authority to the NMEDT Secretariat regarding the efforts undertaken by the agency for execution of the project.
- e. The Committee noted that the project could not be initiated due to law and order issue in the State and strong local agitation.
- f. The Committee recommended fore-closure of the project, as the project could not be initiated since the date of its sanction.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended in-principle fore-closure of the project due to law-and-order situation in the State of Manipur. The agency may bring cost sheet for revision in next TCC.

**Agenda 103.5.4. Preliminary Exploration for Limestone in Govindpara-Savni Block, Gir Somnath District, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: CGM Gujarat]**

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 26th June, 2025 with timeline of 06 months and review after 3 months. The Scheduled date of completion was 25.12.2025.
- b. Timeline was extended upto 31.07.2026 during 9th meeting of PSC.
- c. The committee in its 96th meeting advised CGM, Gujarat to present the project for review after incorporating the suggestions of the Peer Reviewer and before submission of the final GR.
- d. CGM, Gujarat presented the compliance report before the committee.
- e. CGM, Gujarat requested for timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.
- f. The committee deferred the cost revision to next TCC-I meeting.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for approval of PSC of NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.

**Agenda 103.5.5. Preliminary Exploration for Limestone in Harnasa-Umbri block, Gir Somnath District, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: CGM Gujarat]**

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- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 26th June, 2025 with timeline of 08 months and review after 4 months. The Scheduled date of completion was 25.02.2026.
- b. Timeline was extended upto 31.07.2026 during 9th meeting of PSC.
- c. The committee in its 96th meeting advised CGM, Gujarat to present the project for review after incorporating the suggestions of the Peer Reviewer and before submission of the final GR.
- d. CGM, Gujarat presented the compliance report before the committee.
- e. CGM, Gujarat requested for timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.
- f. The committee deferred the cost revision to next TCC-I meeting.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for approval of PSC of NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.

**Agenda 103.5.6. Preliminary Exploration for Limestone in Indroi-Mandor block, Gir Somnath District, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: CGM Gujarat]**

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 26th June, 2025 with timeline of 08 months and review after 4 months. The Scheduled date of completion was 25.02.2026.
- b. Timeline was extended upto 31.07.2026 during 9th meeting of PSC.
- c. The committee in its 96th meeting advised CGM, Gujarat to present the project for review after incorporating the suggestions of the Peer Reviewer and before submission of the final GR.
- d. CGM, Gujarat presented the compliance report before the committee.
- e. CGM, Gujarat requested for timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.
- f. The committee deferred the cost revision to next TCC-I meeting.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for approval of PSC of NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.

**Agenda 103.5.7. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for establishing the occurrence of Lithium and associated minerals in Great Rann of Kachchh, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: CGM Gujarat]**

- a. CGM Gujarat informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 24th February, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 23.12.2025) and approved cost was INR 30,92,597/-.
- b. Timeline was extended upto 31.07.2026 during 10th meeting of PSC.

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- c. The agency informed the Committee that the Government of Gujarat had allocated the western part of the assigned area for Green Energy Projects, restricting exploration activities to 8 sq. km. Consequently, only seven pits with a cumulative excavation volume of 12.9 cu. m could be completed.
- d. Analysis of seven pit samples yielded lithium values ranging from 6.6 ppm to 37.1 ppm, with an average concentration of 21.0 ppm.
- e. CGM, Gujarat presented the compliance report before the committee.
- f. CGM, Gujarat requested for timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.
- g. The committee deferred the cost revision to next TCC-I meeting.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 15th September, 2026 for approval of PSC of NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR and uploading in NGDR Portal.

**Agenda 103.5.8. Preliminary exploration Survey (G3) for Iron ore in Gidhali-Chiklakasa block, Balod district, Chhattisgarh
[Implementing Agency: M/s Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt Ltd]**

- a. The agency informed that the project was approved in the 43rd EC Meeting held on 14th August, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 4th September, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 03.09.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,96,09,403/-
- b. The agency informed that geological mapping, topographic and DGPS surveys, petrographic studies and chemical analysis of all 320 surface samples have been completed. Nine exploration locations (five boreholes and four trial pits) have been finalized. 5 trenches have also been excavated.
- c. The agency further apprised the committee that 150 of 320 samples have been analysed and Forest clearance for drilling has been obtained.
- d. Chemical analysis of 118 surface samples indicates wide compositional variation, with Fe_2O_3 ranging from 6.59–54.62%, Fe from 4.61–38.20%, and SiO_2 from 33.17–83.73%, along with minor concentrations of Al_2O_3 , MgO, CaO, MnO, P, and K_2O .
- e. TCC in its 101st meeting observed that the geological map does not depict structural data. It was further noted that the agency had not presented the proposed borehole locations or trench layout. The Committee instructed the agency to incorporate structural data in the geological map, prepare geological cross-sections, and present the project in the next review meeting for discussion and finalization of the borehole plan.
- f. The agency presented the geological map with structural data, borehole plan and geological cross-sections and sought an extension of the timeline up to 31.01.2027 for completion of the drilling work and submission of the GR.
- g. Recommendations of TCC-1:
- h. The committee approved the borehole plan and recommended a timeline extension up to 31.01.2027 for completion of drilling and submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee approved the borehole plan and recommended a timeline extension up to 31.01.2027 for completion of drilling and submission of GR.

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Agenda 103.5.9. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Iron ore in Yaparlapadu - Dhone Area, Kurnool & Nandyal Districts, Andhra Pradesh

[Implementing Agency: M/s Critical Mineral Trackers]

- a. CMT informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 1st July, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 30.04.2026) and approved cost was Rs. 1,52,82,042/-.
- b. Timeline was extended upto 31.08.2026 during 9th meeting of PSC.
- c. The agency informed the Committee that out of 5 approved boreholes, 2 boreholes (BH-04 & BH-05 in limestone) have been completed and 01 borehole in Iron Ore is in progress.
- d. The committee was apprised that forest clearance from Divisional Forest Officer for exploration in BH-01 and BH-02 in Nandyal District was obtained on 07/08/2026 in accordance with applicable forest and environmental regulations.
- e. The agency also informed that forest clearance for BH-3 from the DFO, Kurnool district is awaited and the drilling will be initiated immediately after obtaining the forest clearance.
- f. The agency sought the Committee's advice on whether to continue drilling up to a depth of 75 m or to discontinue drilling, considering that mining activities in most of the surrounding mines are being carried out only up to a depth of about 40 m. The Committee advised that, among the remaining 3 boreholes, one borehole may be drilled up to 75 m depth, while the remaining boreholes may be terminated at the depth of the target lithology.
- g. The agency sought an extension of three months to complete the remaining drilling, laboratory analysis, data synthesis, report preparation, submission of the Geological Report (GR) to NMEDT and uploading of the report on the NGDR Portal.
- h. The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The extension of timeline is recommended for completion of drilling and related analysis and submission of GR.

Agenda 103.5.10. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE, Ni, Co and PGE in Podili area, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh.

[Implementing Agency: M/s Critical Mineral Trackers]

- a. Critical Mineral Trackers informed that the project was approved in the 43rd EC Meeting held on 14th August, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 4th September, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 03.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,90,21,860/-.
- b. Timeline was extended upto 31.08.2026 during 10th meeting of PSC.
- c. The agency informed the Committee that 2 boreholes (PDP/BH-04 & PDP/BH-03) have been completed and 02 boreholes are in progress and additional rigs have been deployed for timely completion of project.
- d. The agency also informed that they have collected core samples at every 5 m. The committee advised the agency to complete detailed core logging, identify different

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lithological variations and based on that, collect samples lithological variation wise to identify favorable litho units for REE mineralization. Additionally, Hand-Held X-RF may be used to identify anomalous zones for sampling.

- e. The committee advised the agency to collect core samples at 1m sample length and for analysis purpose five continuous samples may be composited and submitted for analysis. The committee also advised the agency to consult the sampling strategy adopted by GSI in the adjoining areas.
- f. The agency sought an extension of three months to complete the remaining drilling, laboratory analysis, report preparation, submission of the Geological Report (GR) to NMEDT and uploading of the report on the NGDR Portal.
- g. The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The extension of timeline is recommended for completion of remaining drilling and submission of GR.

Agenda 103.5.11. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Bauxite in Nittadgi Block, Honnavar Taluka, Uttar Kannada District, Karnataka.

[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Limited]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 09.02.2026) and approved cost was Rs. 1,40,64,245/-. Further, timeline extension upto 31.03.2026 was approved in 5th meeting of PSC.
- b. During the 93rd, 94th, and 96th TCC meetings, the agency apprised the Committee that forest clearance had been denied by the PCCF as the project area falls within the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ). Consequently, the project could not be executed further.
- c. The agency presented all communications exchanged with the competent authorities, namely the Forest Department and DMG, in chronological order.
- d. The Committee was informed that the agency had carried out a DGPS survey for demarcation of the project area prior to the submission of the forest clearance application.
- e. The Committee, during the 96th TCC-I meeting, agreed to pre-close the project.
- f. However, with regard to the reimbursement of expenditure incurred, the Committee advised the agency to submit an endorsement certificate from the State DGM certifying the quantum of work carried out.
- g. State DGM has issued a formal closure certificate for the project due to non-availability of forest permission. However, stated that the expenditure incurred by the agency in connection with the project does not fall in the purview of State DMG and hence, DMG is not in a position to accord any endorsement/certificate regarding expenditure incurred by the agency.
- h. The Committee advised the agency to obtain ratification of the expenditure incurred towards the DGPS survey from the concerned State Unit Office of GSI, in

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accordance with the prescribed SoP. The matter may thereafter be placed before the TCC for consideration in its forthcoming meeting.

- i. The Committee decided to keep the proposed revision of the cost sheet in abeyance pending submission of the ratification of the expenditure incurred by the agency.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended for Pre-closure of the project, in principle and decided to keep the proposed revision of the cost sheet in abeyance pending submission of the ratification of the expenditure incurred by the agency.

**Agenda 103.5.12. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Iron Ore in Nawagarh-Nelsod-Antagarh area, District Uttar Bastar Kanker, Chhattisgarh
[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Limited]**

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 40th EC Meeting held on 21st February, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 3rd March, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 02.01.2026) and approved cost was Rs.1,16,66,705/-. The timeline was extended upto 31.08.2026.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that DGPS survey, geological mapping, bedrock and channel sampling, chemical analysis have been completed.
- c. The Committee was informed that the project experienced delays due to late receipt of forest clearance, difficult terrain, and dense forest cover. Following the grant of forest clearance, access infrastructure and approach roads were developed to facilitate exploration activities.
- d. The agency sought an extension of three months to complete the remaining work and submission of the Geological Report (GR) to NMEDT and uploading of the report on the NGDR Portal.
- e. The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026.
- f. The committee did not approve the 14 additional DGPS survey points required for obtaining forest clearance.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 30.11.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The extension of timeline is recommended for completion of remaining drilling and submission of GR.

**Agenda 103.5.13. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in and around Dumburuneli area, Rayagada District, Odisha
[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]**

- a. MMPL Pvt. Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 09.12.2025) and approved cost was INR 1,37,69,756/-. The timeline was extended upto 15.08.2026.
- b. MMPL apprised the committee that the GR has been submitted within the approved timeline.

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- c. The agency further informed the Committee that a few additional samples had been analyzed and requested ex-post facto approval for the same.
- d. The Committee clarified that ex-post facto approval for analysis of additional samples would not be accorded by the TCC and advised the agency to obtain prior approval before undertaking any deviation from the approved NQT.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee did not recommend ex-post facto approval for additional sample analysis.

Agenda 103.5.14. Preliminary exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Dongargaon-Kasara Block (5.59 km²), District- Yavatmal, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 23rd June, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 22.04.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,22,58,051/-. The timeline has been extended upto 31.08.2026.
- b. MECL also informed that out of 9 BH, 5 BH have been drilled. The remaining 4 BH are in a dense and non-accessible forest area and hence drilling of these 4 BHs could not be taken up.
- c. The agency informed the Committee that the report has been peer reviewed and presented the compliance report addressing the observations and comments of the Peer Reviewer before the Committee for its consideration.
- d. MECL informed that estimated resources are considered under 333 & 334 category as per UNFC nomenclature.
- e. The agency requested revision of the project area specified in the Sanction Order from **5.59 sq. km to 6.06 sq. km.**
- f. The Committee advised the agency to undertake separate resource estimation for limestone and dolomite based on the bulk density method.
- g. The committee recommended the revision of the area mentioned in the Sanction Order from **5.59 sq. km to 6.06 sq. km** without any cost enhancement.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the agency to calculate resource estimation for limestone and dolomite based on the bulk density method. The agency may submit the report after incorporating all the suggestions within the approved timeline of 31.08.2026.

The committee recommended the revision of the area mentioned in the Sanction Order from 5.59 sq. km to 6.06 sq. km without any cost enhancement.

Agenda 103.5.15. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Molybdenum in Mannadipatti South Block and Ponnaiyar North Block (4.75 sq. km), Uttangarai Sector, Harur-Uttangarai Belt, Dist-Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 11th August, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 10.08.2026) and approved cost was INR 7,99,63,464/-

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- b. The agency informed that geological mapping, topographical survey and IP survey has been completed with collection of 46 BRS samples.
- c. The project was reviewed in 102nd TCC meeting in which the committee suggested agency to submit a self-contained note citing all the reasons of delay and the chronology of the FC issue. Further, the committee would review with these data in next TCC meeting and an appropriate decision would be taken up.
- d. MECL informed that drilling will initially be taken up in 13 out of 30 planned BHs falling within the non-forest area and drilling in the remaining 17 BHs falling within the forest area will be taken up immediately upon receipt of the FC.
- e. The agency informed that analytical results of BRS indicated that 28 out of 46 samples recorded tungsten (W) values exceeding 300 ppm, while 6 samples recorded copper (Cu) values exceeding 0.02%. Further, 13 samples recorded lead (Pb) values exceeding 0.2%, of which 5 samples recorded Pb values exceeding 1%.
- f. The agency informed that the FC is awaited and 3700 m of drilling to be done and sought timeline extension of 6 months.
- g. The committee showed their displeasure due to non-commencement of the project in the non-forest area.
- h. The committee recommended timeline extension upto 28.02.2027 for completion of the project and submission of GR and instructed agency to present the progress of work in every two months.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 28.02.2027 for completion of the drilling and submission of GR and instructed agency to present the progress of work in every two months.

**Agenda 103.5.16. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Basemetal in Thal-Didihat-Askot area, Pithoragarh district, Uttarakhand
[Implementing Agency: M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.]**

- a. Geovale informed that the project was approved by Secretary, Ministry of Mines on 12.03.2024 and the same was ratified in 34th meeting of EC held on 13.03.2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 12th March, 2024 with timeline of 12 months (up to 11.03.2025).
- b. Timeline extension upto 30.06.2025, 31.10.2025, 31.05.2026 and 31.08.2026 was approved in 7th TCC II, 43rd EC, 4th PSC and 5th PSC meetings respectively.
- c. The agency presented the compliance report of Peer reviewer's comment before the committee and sought extension upto 10th September, 2026 for GR submission and uploading in NGDR Portal.
- d. The agency sought timeline extension upto 10th Sept' 2026 for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 10th September, 2026 for GR submission and uploading in NGDR Portal.

Agenda 103.5.17. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Copper (Cu) in Bodal area, Mohla Manpur Ambagarh Chowki District, Chhattisgarh

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[Implementing Agency: HCL]

- a. HCL informed that the project was approved in the 1st PSC Meeting held on 9th October, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 23rd February, 2026 with timeline of 10 months (up to 22.12.2026) and approved cost was Rs. 2,52,28,158/-
- b. HCL informed the committee that Phase-I work comprising of Large scale geological mapping covering an area of 50.35 sq.km. has been completed. A total of 178 Nos. of surface samples including 91 BRS+50 Soil+37 stream sediment have been collected from the area. The agency has identified 4 potential sectors of mineralization.
- c. A total of 91 bedrock samples indicate significant multi-element mineralization, with Pb up to 2.39%, Cu upto 2,300 ppm, Zn upto 0.50%, and W upto 574.52 ppm. Elevated Pb-Cu values are associated with sulphide-bearing brecciated quartz veins/reefs, while high W occurs mainly in quartz veins within BIF and brecciated quartz reefs. Notable values include Co upto 740.69 ppm, V upto 0.13%, Au upto 71.11 ppb, and total PGE 175.68 ppb, with high Pd of 138.85 and 131.73 ppb in samples BR-27 and BR-54.
- d. Based on the encouraging Pb, Cu, Co and W values, the agency has identified four sectors for detailed ground geophysical surveys. The agency further apprised the committee that the aeromagnetic and NGPM data also support the identification of these target sectors.
- e. The agency requested for approval for additional 20 lkm for ground geophysical survey for Sector-2 with additional cost of 42.736 Lakhs (including 18% GST). The committee did not agree for additional line km for ground geophysical survey.
- f. The committee deliberated on the project and advised that 20 lkm geophysical survey be undertaken across the entire block, rather than being restricted to any particular sector.
- g. The committee advised the agency to initiate the geophysical survey & trenching and return for review upon completion of the same.
- h. The committee also suggested the agency to demarcate the zones of mineralization.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the agency to initiate the geophysical survey and trenching and return for review upon completion of the same.

Agenda 103.5.18. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Ni, Co, PGE and REE/Associated Minerals in JC Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt Near Rampura and Gollarahatti (R-G) Block, Hassan District, Karnataka

[Implementing Agency: M/s GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 29th EC Meeting held on 31st March, 2023. The Sanction Order was issued on 17th April, 2023 with timeline of 10 months (i.e up to 16.02.2024) and approved cost was INR 82,87,108/-
- b. Timeline was extended upto 30.04.2026, 30.06.2026 and 31.07.2026 by PSC in its 8th, 9th and 10th meetings respectively.


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- c. The Committee noted that the project was completed with a limited quantum of work, as a substantial portion of the planned activities could not be executed due to strong local agitation.
- d. The project was pre-closed during 9th meeting of PSC.
- e. The cost was revised during 84th meeting of TCC. The decision regarding closure of project was deferred by 3rd PSC.
- f. However, the project was pre-closed during 9th meeting of PSC. The project was also downgraded to G4 during 11th PSC and the title of project was modified to "Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Ni, Co, PGE and REE/ Associated Minerals in JC Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt Near Rampura and Gollarahatti (R-G) Block, Hassan District, Karnataka"
- g. The Committee recommended revision of the project cost in accordance with the recommendations made during the 84th TCC meeting.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended revision of cost from Rs. 82.87 lakh to Rs. 18.98 lakh with a change in amount of (-) Rs 63.89 lakhs (~77.10 % de-escalation) as per Annexure-2, for approval of PSC, NMEDT.

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Annexure 2

Revised cost-sheet for Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Ni, Co, PGE and REE/ Associated Minerals in JC Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt Near Rampura and Gollarahatti (R-G) Block, Hassan District, Karnataka

S. No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMET SoC 2020-21		Approved Cost of the Proposal		Amount to be claimed		Remarks
			SoC-Item -SI No.	Rates as per SoC					
					Qty.	Amount (Rs)	Qty	Revised cost	
A	GEOLOGICAL WORK								
i	Geologist Party Days (HQ)	Days	1.3	9000	60	5,40,000	12	1,08,000	
ii	Geologist Party Days (2) (Field)	Days	1.3	11000	120	13,20,000	20	2,20,000	
iii	Labour Days (2) Field	Days	5.7	477	240	1,14,480	40	19,080	
iv	Sampler Party Days	Days	1.5.2	5100	20	1,02,000	2	10,200	
v	Labour Sampling	Days	5.7	477	80	38,160	8	3,816	
vi	Survey Party Days (1 Party)	Days	1.6.1a	8300	15	1,24,500	10	83,000	
vii	Labour for Survey party	Days	5.7	477	60	28,620	40	19,080	
	Sub Total- A					22,67,760		4,63,176	
B	GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATION								
i	Geophysical Investigation- Gravity 2 Profiles Spacing 100 meters -10 stations on each profile (10X20=200)	Per Station	3.1a	3800	200	7,60,000	200	7,60,000	
	Sub Total- B					7,60,000		7,60,000	
C	PITTING / TRENCHING								
	Pitting/Trenching	Per Cu.m	2.1.2	3800	150	5,70,000	-	-	
	Sub Total- C					5,70,000	-	-	

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D	CHEMICAL ANALYSIS								
i	Chemicals Analysis - Geochemicals, BRS, Trench /Pit for Ni, Cr,Cu, PGE (Ni-Fire Assay)	Per Sample	4.1.5d	11800	200	23,60,000	15	1,77,000	
ii	Check Samples- Ni,Cr, Cu,PGE, Au(15%) Ni-Fire assay	Per Sample	4.1.5d	11800	30	3,54,000	-	-	
iii	Preparation of thin sections	Per Sample	4.3.1	2353	10	23,530	-	-	
iv	Complete petrographic /ore microscopic study/Mineragraphic studies	Per Sample	4.3.4	4232	10	42,320	-	-	
v	Preparation of Polished Sections	Per Sample	4.3.2	1549	10	15,490	-	-	
vi	EPMA Studies	Per Hour	4.4.1	8540	10	85,400	-	-	
vii	Whole Rock Analysis	Nos	4.1.15a & b	7568	10	75,680	-	-	
	Sub Total- D					29,56,420		1,77,000	
	Sub Total (A+B+C+D)							14,00,176	
E	PREPARATION OF EXPLORATION PROPOSAL	Per Project	5.1	131084	1	1,31,084	1	28,004	
	Sub Total- E					1,31,084		28,004	2% of Approved cost or 5 lakhs, whichever is lower
F	PEER REVIEW	As per EC	-	10000	1	10,000		30,000	
	Sub Total- F					10,000		30,000	*

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G	GEOLOGICAL REPORT PREPARATION 5 HARD COPIES + 2 SOFTCOPY (@5%)	Per Project	5.2	327709	1	3,27,709		1,50,000	For project with cost up to 50 lakhs, minimum of Rs. 1.5 lakhs or 5% of work, whichever is more
	Sub Total- G					3,27,709		1,50,000	
H	Total Estimated Cost without GST(A+B+C+D+E+F+G)					70,22,973		16,08,180	
I	Provision for GST (18%)					12,64,135		2,89,472	
J	Total Estimated Cost with GST					82,87,108		18,97,652	De- escalation amount is Rs. 63,89,456/-
	Rs. (in lakhs)					82.87		18.98	De- escalation amount: Rs. 63.89 Lakhs (~ - 77.10%)

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Addl. Agenda 103.5.19. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Ishwariya Block, Gir Somnath District, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: M/s PRB Infraprojects Limited]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was recommended by 8th TCC-II held on 28th, 29th April & 2nd May 2025 and approved by 42nd EC held on 02nd June 2025 with schedule time for 10 months. Sanction Order was issued on 01st July 2025 with project completion date up to 30th May 2026 the approved cost of the project was INR 70, 43, 860/-. Duration of review was scheduled after 4 months. Total 120 meters of drilling in 06 boreholes, with average depth of 20m was agreed. The agency was given time line extension up to 30th August 2026 in the 27th TCC-II meeting.
- b. In 27th TCC-II meeting, the Committee agreed for assigning the peer reviewer for Geological Report and thereafter submission of final geological report within stipulated timeline.
- c. The agency presented the compliance report before the Committee after incorporating the observations and comments of the Peer Reviewer.
- d. The Committee recommended that the Geological Report (GR) be submitted and that the same be uploaded on the NGDR Portal by 30.08.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended the submission of Geological Report (GR) and uploading the same on the NGDR Portal by 30.08.2026.

103.6: Review of Ongoing Procurement Proposals

Agenda 103.6.1. Financial assistance from NMET funds to procure machinery/laboratory equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.

[Implementing Agency: DGM Jharkhand]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 28th EC Meeting held on 16th March, 2023. The Sanction Order was issued on 18th August, 2023 with timeline of 12 months (i.e up to 17.08.2024) and approved cost was INR 5,27,90,000/-.
- b. DGM Jharkhand informed that, out of total disbursed amount of Rs. 2,11,16,000/- only, an amount of Rs. 3,32,000/- only was spent towards procurement of Geological Hammers and Brunton Compass.
- c. Further, DMG informed that, a fresh proposal for procurement of Equipment/Instruments (which could not be procured due to various reasons), duly assessing the prevailing market price of the equipment, will be submitted by DMG, Jharkhand, in due course.
- d. The committee was apprised that procurement of ICP-MS is under process from the remaining fund of Rs. 2,07,84,000/- only. DMG presented the status of procurement tabulated as under:

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Sl. No.	Name of Item	Qty.	Status of Procurement
1.	Brunton Compass	20	Items delivered and utilization certificate submitted to NMEDT. ➤ The tendering process was successfully completed by DMG, Jharkhand. ➤ However, the items could not be supplied by the L1 bidder despite several communications made with the bidder. ➤ Finally, all the work orders have been cancelled and action has been taken by the Directorate of Geology, Jharkhand against the L1 bidder.
2.	Geological Hammer	20	
3.	Digital Camera	10	
4.	Hand held GPS	20	
5.	Hydraulic Core Splitter	1	
6.	Vibratory Cup Mill with accessories	1	
7.	Press Palette machine	1	
8.	Grinding and Polishing Machine and mounting unit	1	
9.	Transmitted and Reflected light research Microscope with software attached camera	1	
10.	Proximate Analyzer (TGA)	1	
11.	ICP- MS (Ultra Pure Water System)	1	Work Order issued to L1 bidder on 28.07.2026.
12.	WD-XRF	1	The tendering process was successfully completed by DMG, Jharkhand. However, the rate- Rs. 2,87,80,200/- quoted by the L1 Bidder was more than the amount Rs. 1.60 Cr. sanctioned by the NMEDT. Hence, the bid was cancelled.
13.	Fusion Bead Machine	1	The tendering process was successfully completed by DMG, Jharkhand. However, the rate- Rs. 76 Lakhs quoted by the L1 Bidder was more than the amount- Rs. 20 Lakhs sanctioned by the NMEDT. Hence, the bid was cancelled.

- e. DMG, Jharkhand requested to surrender the items mentioned in S. No. 3 to 10, 12 & 13 of the above table and requested for extension of timeline for procurement of ICP-MS (S. No. 11) upto 31.01.2027.
- f. The committee approved surrender of selected items, in principle and suggested the agency to come for cost revision in upcoming TCC. The decision on extension of timeline for procurement of ICP-MS also deferred to next meeting of TCC.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee approved, in principle, the surrender of the selected items and advised the agency to submit the proposal for cost revision in the upcoming

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TCC meeting. The decision regarding extension of the timeline for procurement of ICP-MS was deferred to the next TCC meeting.

Agenda 103.6.2. Procurement of Magneto-Telluric (MT) instruments, semirugged laptops, software and workstations by GSI

[Implementing Agency: GSI]

- a. GSI informed that the project was sanctioned was approved in the 29th EC Meeting held on 31st March, 2023. The Sanction Order was issued on 14th July, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (i.e up to 13.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 31,16,31,740/-.
- b. GSI has submitted revised cost estimate for procurement of six high end workstation for GSI's Geophysics Division to run WinGLink and process MT data under the National Magneto-Telluric Survey (NTS) due to cost escalation.
- c. The committee observed that GSI has not yet finalised the exact cost of six high end workstation and re-tendering process is also not completed. The committee advised GSI to complete the re-tendering process, finalise the cost of six high end workstation, take approval of the Director General, GSI and submit the proposal for revised cost estimate to TCC-1 for recommendation to PSC for approval.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee deferred the cost revision to next TCC meeting and advised GSI to complete the re-tendering process, finalize the cost of six high end workstation take approval of the Director General, GSI and submit the proposal for revised cost estimate.

103.7: Review of New Special Studies Project Proposal

Agenda 103.7.1. Undertaking of Geochemical Analysis of Samples from Quartz, Mica & Feldspar Mines and Other Mineral Commodities

[Implementing Agency: IBM]

- a. IBM proposed a systematic nationwide programme for sampling and comprehensive geochemical analysis of mine samples from Quartz, Mica and Feldspar mines, along with selected mineral commodities not covered in earlier studies.
- b. Out of approximately 1,920 operating Quartz, Mica and Feldspar mines, about 400 mines will be selected across different geological provinces and mineral belts to ensure representative coverage. In addition, 41 working mines of Vermiculite, Kyanite, Magnesite, Diamond, Phosphorite, Sillimanite, Garnet and Wollastonite are proposed to be covered.
- c. Representative samples will be collected exclusively from mining leases, including mine faces, ROM material, waste/sub-grade dumps, mineral stacks and tailing ponds, wherever available, following established IBM sampling protocols.
- d. Approximately 1,500 samples, including check samples, are proposed to be analyzed for major, trace, critical and strategic elements to generate a comprehensive baseline geochemical database and assess associated critical-mineral potential.
- e. The study is proposed to be completed within four months of NMEDT approval, with sample collection by 15.10.2026, analysis and data compilation by 15.12.2026, and submission of the final report by 31.12.2026.
- f. As IBM's Mineral Processing Division laboratories are engaged with ongoing beneficiation projects and may not meet the proposed timeline, the agency proposed

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outsourcing the geochemical analysis to Ministry of Mines organizations through NMEDT funding.

- g. Of the proposed 1,500 samples, 60 samples will be analyzed at IBM's MPD laboratory, while 1,440 samples will be analyzed through JNARDDC, Nagpur and MECL, Nagpur. The proposal is limited to sample sub-sampling and geochemical analysis, excluding costs of sample collection by IBM and analysis at IBM's own laboratories.
- h. IBM will undertake comprehensive geochemical characterization of Quartz, Mica, Feldspar and other selected mineral commodities to assess the occurrence, distribution and enrichment of critical and strategic minerals within mine leases.
- i. The study will target potential enrichment in mine faces, waste/sub-grade material, mineral rejects, stacks and tailings, wherever available, particularly in presently unutilized materials.
- j. Of the proposed 1,500 samples, 60 samples will be analyzed at IBM's in-house laboratories, while 1,440 samples will be outsourced to JNARDDC, Nagpur and MECL, Nagpur for sub-sampling and detailed geochemical analysis on a nomination basis under NMEDT funding.
- k. The committee reviewed the proposal and after thorough deliberations agreed for recommendation to PSC for approval.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the proposal titled "Undertaking of Geochemical Analysis of Samples from Quartz, Mica & Feldspar Mines and Other Mineral Commodities" for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 232.81 lakhs (including GST) with a timeline of 4 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 3A & 3B

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Annexure 3A

Undertaking of Geochemical Analysis of Samples from Quartz, Mica & Feldspar Mines and Other Mineral Commodities							
Sl. No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMEDT SoC December, 2025		Total Cost of the Project		Remarks
			SoC- Item-S.No.	Rates as per SoC	Qty./days	Total Amount (Rs)	
1.0	Sample Processing						
1.1	Sampling man days for Sample processing work - Charges of one sampler per day (without Labour)	day	1.2.1b	7,850	180	14,13,000	
1.2	4 labours/sampler for sampling work	day	5.8	556.00	720	4,00,320	
Sub-Total 1						18,13,320	
2.0	Laboratory Studies						
2.1	Major Oxides (WD XRF) - (oxides + Traces-24 elements)	per sample	4.1.17a	4,200	1440	60,48,000	
2.3	Analysis of one rock sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace elements (U, Ta, Ge, Be, Hf, Sn, As, Rb, Th) by ICP-MS	per sample	4.1.15	7,400	1440	1,06,56,000	
2.4	For each additional trace elements by ICP-MS	per sample	4.1.17b	842	1440	12,12,480	Li, W
Sub-Total 2						1,79,16,480	
Total Estimated Cost without GST						1,97,29,800	
Provision for GST (18%)			CGST (@ 9%)			17,75,682.00	GST will be reimbursed as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate
			SGST (@9%)			17,75,682.00	
			IGST			-	
Total GST (CGST+SGST+IGST)						35,51,364.00	
Gross Value						1,97,29,800	
Tax Value						35,51,364.00	
Final Amount (Gross Value + Tax Value)						2,32,81,164.00	

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Annexure 3B					
Time Schedule/ Action Plan for Undertaking of Geochemical Analysis of Samples from Quartz, Mica & Feldspar Mines and Other Mineral Commodities					
S. No.	Activities	September	October	November	December
1	Collection of Samples from Mines				
2	Sub-Sampling and Geochemical Analysis of the samples collected				
3	Data Compilation & Final Report Preparations				

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Annexure-4

**List of participants who attended the 103rd Meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committee
(TCC-I) of NMEDT held on 25th and 27th August 2026 through video
conferencing mode**

S.no	Name	Designation	Email ID	Contact No	Organization
1.	Dr. S. Ravi	Dy. Director General, GSITI, Hyderabad	s.ravi1@gsi.gov.in	9441138834	Chairman, TCC-1
2.	Shri. I.R. Kirmani	ADG (Retd.), GSI	irkirmani@yahoo.com	9414014723	Member TCC-1
3.	Shri. K. Koteswara Rao	Dy. Director General (Retd.), GSI	kkrao1957@gmail.com	9000117969	Member TCC-1
4.	Dr. S. K. Kulshrestha	DDG-RMH-III, NER, GSI, Shillong	s.kulshrestha@gsi.gov.in	9413330658	Member TCC-1
5.	Shri. M. Mohan	Dy. Director General (Retd.), GSI	mariappan.mohan@gmail.com	9423686547	Member TCC-1
6.	Dr. E.V.S.S.K. Babu	Scientist (G), NGRI	evsskbabu@ngri.res.in	9441535852	Member TCC-1
7.	Shri A. R. Mukundhan	Regional Director, AMD, South Central Region	mukuagaram@rediffmail.com	6303606347	Member TCC-1
8.	Sh. S K Adhikari	Chief Mining Geologist, IBM, Nagpur	skadhikari@ibm.gov.in	7588690545	Member TCC-1
9.	Smt. Vandana	Cost Accounts Officer, RSAS, Bangalore, GSI	vandana@gsi.in	8660939235	Member TCC-1
10.	Shri S Dhanendran	Director, GSITI & Member Secretary, TCC-I	s.dhanendran@gsi.gov.in	9944882204	Member TCC-1
11.	Shri Pradeep Singh	ADG, PSS, GSI	pradeep.singh@gsi.gov.in	9810233957	GSI
12.	Representatives from GSI				
13.	Representatives from IBM				
14.	Representatives from MECL				
15.	Representatives from HCL				
16.	Representatives from CGM Gujarat				
17.	Representatives from DGM Jharkhand				
18.	Representatives from DMG Rajasthan				
19.	Representatives from M/s UEIPL				
20.	Representatives from M/s Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.,				
21.	Representatives from M/s PRB Infraprojects Limited				
22.	Representatives from M/s GeoExpOre Pvt Ltd.				
23.	Representatives from M/s ReVal Consulting Private Limited				
24.	Representatives from M/s Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd.,				
25.	Representatives from M/s HITTITES Exploration				
26.	Representatives from M/s Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt Ltd,				
27.	Representatives from M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd				
28.	Representatives from M/s Critical Mineral Trackers				
29.	Representatives from M/s Wattfin Ventures Private Limited				
30.	Representatives from M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd.				
31.	Representatives from M/s. Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.				
32.	Ms. Bishakha	Sr. Geologist	sr.geologist1-nmet@gov.in	8126541605	NMEDT

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33.	Smt. Palak Kapoor	Sr. Geologist	sr.geologist4-nmet@gov.in	8851742488	NMEDT
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