

भारत सरकार
खान मंत्रालय
राष्ट्रीय खनिज खोज न्यास

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

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

New Delhi, 6th February, 2025

Subject: Circulation of minutes of 39th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) held on 24th January, 2025

Please find enclosed herewith the minutes of 39th meeting of Executive Committee of NMET held on 24th January, 2025 for your kind perusal.

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

Encl: As above

[Geetika Sharma]
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET

To,

1. The Secretary, Dept. of Atomic Energy, Anushakti Bhawan, C.S.M. Marg, Mumbai- 400001.
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
4. The Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001.
5. The Director General, Geological Survey of India, 27, J. L. Nehru Road, Kolkata-700016.
6. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, 2nd Floor, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.
7. The Principal Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh, Mantralaya, Vallabh Bhawan, Bhopal- 462004.
8. The Principal Secretary, Industries, Energy and Labour Dept., Govt. of Maharashtra, 114 Annex Building Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400032.

NMET Secretariat

Room No. 325-326, F Wing, Udyog Bhawan, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110011

Tel: (011)-23061763, email: nmet-mines@gov.in

<https://nmet.gov.in/>

9. The Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Mines and Petroleum, Government of Rajasthan, Main Building Secretariat, Jaipur-305005.
10. The Additional Chief Secretary, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Dept., Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Industries Department Secretariat, Chennai- 600009.
11. Shri Alok Sharma, (Retd.) GM & HoD (Exploration), CMPDIL, 402, Lake Garden, Kanke Road, Ranchi- 834008.
12. Shri Naresh Nautiyal, Head (Business Development & Planning) (Retd.), MECL, 109, KT Nagar, Katol Road, Nagpur- 440013.
13. Dr. Yamuna Singh, Scientist-H, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (Retd.), Flat G-7, Block G, Rainbow Vistas Rock Garden, Opp- IDL, Green Hills Road, Sanathnagar PO, Moosapet, Hyderabad- 500018.
14. Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat, Dy. Director General (Retd.), Geological Survey of India, 695 Shanti Nagar (Road No-3), Near Durgapura Railway Station, Durgapura, Jaipur- 302018.
15. Dr. Sahendra Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Geology, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad- 826004.

Copy to:

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology and Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Minerals, Government of Assam.
4. The Principal Secretary-cum-Mines Commissioner, Government of Bihar.
5. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
6. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry and Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries and Commerce), Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines and Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries and Commerce), Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

NMET Secretariat

Room No. 325-326, F Wing, Udyog Bhawan, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110011

Tel: (011)-23061763, email: nmet-mines@gov.in

<https://nmet.gov.in/>

14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining and Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel and Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology, Government of Punjab.
19. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
20. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
21. The Principal Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines and Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce and Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.
27. The Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura.
28. The Secretary, Commerce and Industries, Government of Mizoram.
29. The Secretary, Textiles, Commerce and Industry, Government of Manipur.
30. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana.

Copy to:

1. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati-781019.
4. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Bihar.
5. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Chhattisgarh.
6. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Gujarat.

NMET Secretariat

Room No. 325-326, F Wing, Udyog Bhawan, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110011
Tel: (011)-23061763, email: nmet-mines@gov.in
<https://nmet.gov.in/>

8. The Director, Department of Industries, Government of Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, J.L.Nehru Udyog Bhawan, 4th Floor, Rail Head Complex, Jammu - 180012.
10. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka.
12. The Director, Directorate of Mining and Geology, Government of Kerala.
13. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
14. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Odisha.
18. The Director, Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of Punjab.
19. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan.
20. The Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu.
21. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana.
22. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Director, Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of West Bengal.
25. The Director, Directorate of Industries and Commerce, Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Director, Department of Mines, Minerals and Geology, Government of Sikkim
27. The Director, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura
28. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mineral Resource, Government of Mizoram.
29. The Director, Department of Trade, Commerce and Industries, Government of Manipur.
30. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana.

Copy to:

1. Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General and Chairman, TCC-NMET, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI, Bangaluru 560111
2. The Director, AMD, Department of Atomic Energy, AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016.

NMET Secretariat

Room No. 325-326, F Wing, Udyog Bhawan, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110011
Tel: (011)-23061763, email: nmet-mines@gov.in
<https://nmet.gov.in/>

3. The Managing Director, MECL, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur-440006.
4. Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd., Paryawas Bhawan, Block 'A', II nd floor, Jail Road, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.) 462011.
5. M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Services Ltd., Adani Corporate House; Shantigram; Near Vaishno Devi Circl; e; SG Highway Khodiyar NA; Ahmedabad; Ahmedabad; Gujarat; 382421; India.
6. M/s Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., 15-17-909/9,5th Cross Shivabagh, Kadri, Mangalore-575005, Karnataka, India
7. The Managing Director, Odisha Mining Corporation, OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751 001.
8. Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Block 15, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Sector - 10, Gandhinagar - 382010
9. The Managing Director, Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd., 21, CLM Lane, Raniganj, Dist: Burdwan, West Bengal, India Pin: 713347.
10. GEMCOKATI Exploration Pvt Ltd, E-77 MIDC Chandrapur, Maharashtra-442401.
11. M/s Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions, 17, Advaita Ashram Rd, Arthanari Nagar, Fairlands, Salem, Tamil Nadu-636004.
12. Engeotech Consultant, 1338 Vijay Nagar, Kachnar City Road, Jabalpur PIN 482002.
13. GeoExpore Pvt. Ltd., WeWork-Next to Forum Mall, Prestige Cube, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560034, Karnataka, India
14. M/s Critical Mineral Trackers, E3, 3rd Floor, Technology Research Park, Indian Institute of Technology, IITH Road, near National Highway 65, Hyderabad, Kandi, Telangana 502285
15. M/s PRB Infra, S-3 2nd Floor, Ratan Heights, Medical Chowk, Chandan Nagar, Nagpur, Maharashtra 440009.
16. The Managing Director, Jharkhand Exploration and Mining Corporation Ltd., JSFC Building, 4th Floor, Kadru, Ranchi, Jharkhand
17. Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., 3rd Floor Floor, Anaya Chambers, GN 38/5, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata, West Bengal

Copy for information to:

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

NMET Secretariat

Room No. 325-326, F Wing, Udyog Bhawan, Central Secretariat, New Delhi-110011

Tel: (011)-23061763, email: nmet-mines@gov.in

<https://nmet.gov.in/>

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust
Minutes of 39th Executive Committee (EC) meeting, NMET
held on 24.1.2025
Venue: Khanij Kaksh, Shastri Bhawan

The 39th meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of NMET was held under Chairmanship of Shri V. L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Mines/Chairman EC on 24th January, 2025 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi in hybrid mode. The list of participants is given in Annexure-1.

Shri Vivek Kumar Bajpai, Joint Secretary/Member Secretary, EC welcomed the chairman EC, all members, technical experts and invitees in the meeting. The points discussed and decisions taken in the meeting are as under:

Agenda 39.1: Confirmation of minutes of 38th Meeting of EC held on 29th November, 2024.

The minutes of 38th EC meeting were circulated on 4th December 2024. No comments were received from the members.

Decision: EC confirmed the minutes of the 38th meeting of Executive Committee (EC).

Agenda 39.2: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes of 38th EC meeting.

EC was briefed on the action taken on decisions taken during the 38th EC meeting. Discussion on the actionable points is given below:

- (i) In the matter of organizing a workshop on EL regime, Chairman, EC advised that the EL workshop along with Roadshow be organized immediately after the auction.

[Action: Mines-IV]

- (ii) Regarding the performance of NPEAs, Secretary Mines instructed that surveillance assessment reports of NPEAs be obtained from QCI-Nabet for the agencies which have completed 18 months since notification and the reports be examined thereafter.

[Action: MINES-I]

- (iii) Regarding the GR of Bhatikheda block, AMD apprised that the detailed report has been shared with Ministry of Mines and Government of

Rajasthan. Chairman, EC instructed that the block be put up for auction in the upcoming Tranche.

[Action: MINES-IV]

- (iv) Regarding the uploading of reports and shapefiles of NMET funded exploration projects in NGDR portal, the house was apprised that while the boundary files of completed projects have been uploaded in the portal, the uploading of reports is in progress. Chairman, EC instructed that the balance reports be uploaded either by NMET Secretariat on its own or by hiring an agency.

[Action: NMET]

- (v) The house was apprised that the committee set up under chairmanship of ADG Exploration, DGH has submitted a draft report on inclusion of seismic survey in coal exploration for comments before finalization. In this regard permission was sought to forward the report to Ministry of Coal for their comments. The permission was agreed to.

[Action: NMET/Ministry of Coal]

Agenda 39.3: Approval for change in the currency denomination of approved cost of Multi-sensor aero-geophysical surveys over block 6 under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP)

The house was apprised that Multi-Sensor Aero-geophysical Surveys in OGP Blocks-6 and 8 were approved during the 19th EC meeting of NMET on 26th March 2021, with a cost of Rs. 84.79 crores including 18% GST. Out of Rs. 84.79 crores an amount of Rs. 39.86 crore was earmarked for Block-6. Subsequently, an additional amount of Rs. 50,27,104/- equivalent to USD 60,204.8418 (considering exchange rate of Rs. 83.50=1USD) was approved in the 36th EC meeting held on 29.7.2024 for carrying out for survey of additional 3117 line km.

A proposal was received from GSI that as per the MoA between GSI and the foreign PIA payment was being made in USD. Since 2021, the cost in INR has increased due to increase in exchange rate of USD from ₹73.36 to ₹86.39. However, in USD there is no change in the approved cost. Therefore, GSI requested that a revised sanction order be issued in USD instead of INR.

The details of approved cost and expenditure incurred in the project is as under:

| Particulars | Amount in ₹ | Amount in \$ |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Approved cost of project | 39,85,74,528.59 | 54,33,109.3056 |
| Additional cost approved in 36 th EC | 50,27,104.00 | 60,204.8418 |
| Total approved project cost | 40,36,01,632.59 | 54,93,314.1474 |
| Payment made till Milestone 7 | 34,23,27,059.00 | 41,19,985.62 |
| Balance payment to be made | 6,12,74,573.59 | 13,73,328.5274 |
| Amount of milestone 8 to be paid @ 86.39 | 4,74,56,740.92 | 5,49,331.4147 |
| Amount of milestone 9 to be paid (@ 86.44 as on 23.1.2025) | 7,12,75,751.06 | 8,23,997.1221 |
| Balance Amount to be paid | (5,74,57,918.39) | 0.00 |

Due to fluctuation in exchange rate of USD to INR, the project cost in INR, upon completion of the project, would be ₹46,10,59,550.98 (approx.) which will exceed the sanctioned cost of Rs. 40.36 crore in INR, though in USD the project cost would remain unchanged.

Accordingly, TCC-1 at its 72nd meeting has recommended that the approved cost of Multi-sensor aero-geophysical survey over Block 6 may be communicated as \$ 5,493,314.1474/- instead of ₹40,36,01,632.59.

Decision: EC noted that the total approved project cost is \$ 54,93,314.1474 equivalent to ₹40,36,01,632.59; on completion, the total project cost would be ₹46,10,59,550.98 (approx.) due to fluctuation in the exchange rate of USD to INR while in USD the project cost will remain unchanged. In view of this, EC accorded in principle approval to the proposal for change in the currency denomination of the sanction order. Further, following instructions were given for compliance and for IFD concurrence:

- Proposal to be put up through IFD, Mines to obtain concurrence for change of currency of payment against milestone 8 and 9 from INR 11,87,32,491/- to USD 13,73,328.5368 (USD 5,49,331.4147 and USD 8,23,997.1221, respectively).

Further, the \$ rate on payment of USD 13,73,328.5368 would be the exchange rate on the date of payment.

[Action: NMET]

Agenda 39.4: Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory/ Equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities- ArcGIS software [GSI]

A proposal was submitted by GSI to procure ArcGIS software for spatial integration and analysis of geoscientific data. This software is being widely used by GSI for last two decades for generating deliverables such as maps, reports, analytical models etc. Further, GSI has developed comprehensive geoscientific repositories, including the National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) and National Landslide Forecasting Centre (NLFC), which store a wide range of geological, geophysical, geochemical, and other geospatial data using the ArcGIS desktop platform. Hence, there is a high demand for ArcGIS Desktop advance version along with its extensions.

The existing license of ArcGIS 10.3 Enterprise Agreement (EA) License has expired on September 2024 and needs to be renewed. The license will be distributed among all the offices of GSI for uninterrupted services of ArcGIS software for technical assignments of GSI.

TCC-1 at its 71st TCC meeting has recommended the procurement of latest version of ArcGIS under Enterprise Agreement (EA) License of 5 years with an estimated cost of ₹11,00,00,000/- (Rs. Eleven Crore only) inclusive of all taxes.

Decision: EC accorded financial approval of ₹11,00,00,000/- (Rs eleven crore only) including GST for procurement of latest version of ArcGIS with comprehensive support (including license renewal/upgradation) for 5 years by upgrading the existing inventory.

Agenda 39.5: Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities- Upgradation of Geosoft Software Licenses [GSI]

GSI has submitted a proposal for procurement of Geosoft software for processing and interpretation of geophysical data. The existing 20 licenses of Geosoft software have expired and M/s Seequent Burlington (Bentley System), the sole authorized Indian distributor of Geosoft software have expressed their inability to provide technical support for older version.

Considering the wide use of Geosoft software in different domains (land, marine and airborne), upgradation of the conventional Geosoft licenses to yearly subscription-based license is an urgent requirement for execution of in-house NGPM and outsourced NAGMP projects. Total 9 licenses need to be upgraded for each Geophysics Division of GSI.

TCC-1 at its 71st meeting has recommended the proposal for upgradation of 09 licenses of Geosoft (Oasis Montaj) software for a period of 2 years with a cost of \$ 983860 plus 18% GST equivalent to ₹9,79,61,366/- including 18% GST. Since the upgraded licenses are yearly subscription-based Enterprise License, no AMC or CAMC are required. The vendor will provide all the support required during the subscription period.

The year wise breakup of payment is as under:

| Year wise estimated cost in USD and INR (conversion date: 20.11.2024 @ Rs. 84.38) | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Geosoft (Oasis Montaj) | No. of Licenses | 1st Year USD/ (INR) | 2nd Year USD/ (INR) |
| Geophysics Standard (Ground) | 7 | \$354130 (₹ 29881489) | \$371840 (₹ 31375859) |
| Airborne Field | 1 | \$39050 (₹ 3295039) | \$41000 (₹ 3459580) |
| Geophysics Advance | 1 | \$86750 (₹ 7319965) | \$91090 (₹ 7686174) |
| Total Estimated yearly Cost in USD (INR) | | \$479930 (₹ 40496493) | \$503930 (₹ 42521613) |
| Grand Total for 2 years without GST | | USD 983860 (Rs. 8,30,18,107) | |
| 18% GST | | ₹1,49,43,259/- | |
| Total Cost in INR including all taxes | | ₹9,79,61,366/-* | |

**The cost in INR may change subject to the change in the conversion rate of USD to INR at the time of payment.*

Decision: (i) EC accorded financial approval of USD 983860 plus 18% GST for upgrading the existing 09 licenses of Geosoft (Oasis Montaj) software for a period of 2 years without any AMC or CAMC.

(ii) Henceforth, all proposals related to a particular subject/project should be clubbed together at the time of seeking approval.

[Action: GSI]

Agenda 39.6: Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [IBM]

Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter dated 5.11.2024 submitted a proposal for procurement of Mineral Processing Equipment, Characterization and Analysis Instruments for 3 mineral processing laboratories located at Nagpur, Bangalore and Ajmer from NMET fund.

Details of the instruments are as under:-

A. Requirements of New Facility for MMPL, Nagpur

| S.No. | Equipment name | Qty | Approx Cost (in lakh)- including all taxes |
|--|--|------------|---|
| NEW FACILITY | | | |
| 1 | High pressure Grinding Rolls (HPGR) | 1 | 100 |
| 2 | High Gradient Magnetic Separator (Vertical Pulsating) | 1 | 90 |
| 3 | Rare Earth Roll Separator (3 Intensities) | 1 | 35 |
| 4 | High Rate Thickener Test Unit | 1 | 40 |
| 5 | Jameson Flotation Cell | 1 | 60 |
| 6 | Fluidized Bed Roasting unit with cylinders & accessories | 1 | 100 |
| 7 | High Temp. Furnace with Vacuum & Gas Inlet Provision | 1 | 30 |
| 8 | Mini Flotation Circuit | 1 | 75 |
| REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING FACILITY | | | |
| 9 | Wet Variable Magnetic separator | 1 | 45 |
| 10 | Wilfley Table (Coarse and Fine Decks) | 1 | 30 |
| 11 | Pressure Filtration Test Unit | 1 | 50 |
| Mineralogy – Characterization Instruments | | | |
| REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING FACILITY | | | |
| 12 | EPMA with accessories and ancillary units | 1 | 1500 |
| 13 | TG- DTA with accessories & ancillary units | 1 | 90 |
| Chemical – Analysis Instruments | | | |
| NEW FACILITY | | | |
| 14 | GF – ASS with accessories | 1 | 70 |
| Total | | 14 | 2315 |

B. Requirements of new facility and replacement of existing facility for RMPL, Bangaluru

| S.No. | Equipment name | Qty | Approx Cost (in lakh)- including all taxes |
|---|---|----------|--|
| 1 | High Gradient Magnetic Separator (Vertical Pulsating) | 1 | 90 |
| 2 | High Rate Thickener Test Unit | 1 | 40 |
| REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING FACILITY | | | |
| 3 | Pressure Filtration Test Unit | 1 | 50 |
| 4 | Bench top XRD with accessories and ancillary units | 1 | 98 |
| Chemical – Analysis Instruments | | | |
| NEW FACILITY | | | |
| 5 | ED- XRF with accessories & ancillary units | 1 | 120 |
| Total | | 5 | 398 |

C. List of requirements of New Facility for RMPL, AJMER

| S.No. | Equipment name | Qty | Approx Cost (in lakh)- including all taxes |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|--|
| 1 | Spiral WW6, FM, HG and MG config. (Each 1 No.) | 1 | 75 |
| 2 | Electrostatic Roll Separator | 1 | 65 |
| 3 | High Intensity Disc Magnetic Separator (Dry) | 1 | 30 |
| 4 | Column Flotation | 1 | 40 |
| 5 | Centrifugal Gravity Concentrator | 1 | 25 |
| 6 | Wet Variable Intensity magnetic Separator | 1 | 45 |
| Total | | 6 | 280 |
| Grand Total A+B+C | | 25 | 2993 |

TCC-1 at its 71st meeting has recommended the proposal to procure equipments for an estimated cost of ₹29.93 crores (Rs. Twenty nine crore and ninety three lakhs) inclusive of all taxes, custom duties with warranty as applicable with a timeline of 24 months.

Discussion:

Shri. D. P. Kunungo, Director (I/C), Ore Dressing, IBM informed the house that these equipments are necessary for conducting R&D studies pertaining to critical minerals and complex ores. He further, informed that IBM is providing support to Central agencies such as GSI, MECL by carrying out chemical analysis of samples.

Dr. S Ravi, Chairman, TCC-1 also apprised the house that IBM and IMMT are the two main agencies carrying out beneficiation related studies and these instruments will be helpful for carrying out R&D studies.

Decision: EC accorded financial approval of ₹29.93 crore (Rs. Twenty nine crore and ninety three lakhs) inclusive of all taxes, custom duties with warranty as applicable with a timeline of 24 months for procurement of above equipments.

Further, EC advised the chairpersons of both TCCs that same instrument should not be approved for multiple agencies, unless absolutely required.

[Action: IBM]

[Action: TCC-I & TCC-II]

Agenda 39.7: Financial Assistance to State Governments to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities from NMET funds

A. Financial Assistance to DGM, Nagaland

EC was informed that TCC-2 at its 3rd meeting has recommended the procurement of equipments/instruments to DGM, Nagaland with estimated cost of Rs. 0.77 crore with timeline of 12 months. Details of the equipments are as under:

| Sl. No. | Item | Qty | Recommended Cost |
|---------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1 | Air Oven | 1 | 1,50,000 |
| 2 | Bomb Calorimeter | 1 | 14,00,000 |
| 3 | Proximate Analyser | 1 | 36,58,000 |
| 4 | Fusion Bead Machine | 1 | 25,00,000 |
| | | Total | 7708000 |

Discussion: EC enquired about the status of earlier procurement by DGM, Nagaland from NMET fund. In this regard, the house was apprised that NMET has sanctioned ₹5.15 crore to DGM, Nagaland in the year 2023 for procurement of equipments/software and they have successfully procured the items.

DGM, Nagaland informed the house that all the instruments are being utilized and proper records are being maintained.

Decision: EC accorded approval of ₹0.77 crore including GST to DGM, Nagaland for procurement of instrument/equipments with a timeline of 12 months.

[Action: DGM, Nagaland]

B. Financial Assistance to DGM, Mizoram

EC was informed that DGM, Mizoram has submitted a proposal for procurement of 02 additional DGPS and cost revision of earlier sanctioned 10 handheld GPS as per details given below:

(i) New procurement

| Sl. | Item | Qty. | Equipment Cost (Amount in ₹ incl. GST) | Total Cost (Amount in ₹ incl. GST) |
|-------------------|------|------|--|--|
| 1 | DGPS | 2 | 29,50,000 | 59,00,000 |
| Total Cost | | | | 59,00,000/- |

(ii) Cost revision of 10 handheld GPS:

| Sl. | Item | Qty. | Cost approved in 27 th EC (Amount in ₹ incl. GST) | Revised Cost (Amount in ₹ incl. GST) | Enhanced Cost (Amount in ₹ incl. GST) |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------|---|--|---|
| 1 | Handheld GPS | 10 | 80,000 | 5,19,200 | 4,39,200 |
| Total Additional Cost | | | | | 4,39,200 |

However, TCC-2 at its 4th meeting has recommended the following:

- (i) Proposal for purchase of 01 additional DGPS amounting to ₹29,50,000 including GST.
- (ii) Proposal for additional cost of ₹4,39,200 for 10 Handheld GPS and ₹13,50,000 for 01 DGPS including GST

Discussion:

DGM, Mizoram informed the house that they have already procured the earlier sanctioned 01 DGPS (sanctioned in 27th EC) and had submitted a proposal for procurement of additional 02 DGPS with a cost of ₹59,00,000 (Rs fifty nine lakhs) including GST and cost revision of 10 handheld GPS in 4th meeting of TCC-2. However, in the minutes of the meeting of 4th TCC-2 it was inadvertently written as cost revision instead of procurement of 02 DGPS instruments.

The house was further apprised that the procurement review committee for Mizoram in its report has mentioned that DGM, Mizoram has already procured one DGPS and 3 GIS software with a cost of Rs. 61,95,000/-. Detailed break-up of the cost is given below:

| Sl | Item | Qty. | Amount approved in 27 th EC (₹ incl. GST) | Amount for which items were procured (₹ incl. GST) |
|--------------|--------------|------|---|---|
| 1 | GIS Software | 3 | 45,99,000 | 61,95,000 |
| 2 | DGPS | 1 | 16,00,000 | |
| Total Amount | | | 61,99,000 | 61,95,000 |

After due deliberation it was decided that since DGM, Mizoram has already procured 1 DGPS and since TCC-2 has recommended procurement of 01 additional DGPS instrument, approval may be considered for procurement of 01 additional DGPS. Therefore, necessary corrigendum of the minutes would be issued by TCC-2.

Decision: EC accorded approval of ₹29,50,000 (Rs. Twenty nine lakh fifty thousand only) including GST with a timeline of 12 months for procurement of 01 DGPS and additional cost of ₹4,39,200 (Rs. Four lakh thirty nine thousand and two hundred only) for procurement of 10 handheld GPS to DGM, Mizoram.

[Action: TCC-2 and DGM, Mizoram]

Agenda 39.8: In-principle approval of Projects submitted by NPEAs

EC was informed that TCC-1 and TCC-2 have accorded in-principle approval for the following 04 nos. of mineral exploration proposals:

| S. No. | Block/Project | Agency |
|--------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Limestone in Bhatiya Area (6.33 sq, kms) situated in the village Bhatiya, Gokalpur, District-Devbhumi Dwarka, State Gujarat | M/s PRB Infraprojects Private Limited |
| 2 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Base Metal - Gold prospect in Burogaon-Biltala-Mogan, Lalitpur District, Uttar Pradesh | M/s Geovale Sevice Pvt Ltd |
| 3 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for HREE, Ge, Ga, and Sc in Bhavnagar District, Gujarat | M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Solution |
| 4 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Limestone in Bhatiya Area (6.33 sq, kms) situated in the village Bhatiya, Gokalpur, District-Devbhumi Dwarka, State Gujarat | M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Solution |

Decision: EC advised that the detailed project proposal must be submitted within 3months for approval of EC.

Agenda 39.9: Approval of new exploration project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committees (TCCs)

TCC-1 in its 71st and 72nd meeting and TCC-2 in its 3rd and 4th meeting have recommended following 26 mineral exploration proposals with estimated cost of Rs 49.99 crores for approval of EC.

Details of the new project proposals recommended for approval of EC are as under:

| Amount in Rs. crores | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|---|-------|-------------------|------------------|
| A. Projects approved by TCC-1 | | | | | | | |
| S. No. | Project/Block Name | Area (in km ²) | Agency | Commodity | Stage | Duration (Months) | Recommended Cost |
| 1 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for limestone in Chokkanathapuram Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu [71st TCC-1] | 8.5 | Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions | Limestone | G3 | 08 | 2.25 |
| 2 | "Preliminary exploration (G3 stage) for limestone in Kulumur Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu [71st TCC-1] | 7.64 | Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions | Limestone | G3 | 08 | 2.25 |
| 3 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Gold in Chinnikatti Block, Haveri District, Karnataka [71st TCC-1] | 7 | Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited | Gold | G3 | 12 | 4.69 |
| 4 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for aluminous laterite and associated critical minerals in Govindagude & Sudigudde block, Udupi District, Karnataka. [71st TCC-1] | 1.20 | Critical Mineral Tracker | Aluminous laterite and associate minerals | G3 | 06 | 0.44 |
| 5 | Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in and around Dumburuneli area, Rayagada District, Odisha [72nd TCC-1] | 72.14 | MMPL | Graphite | G4 | 10 | 1.38 |
| 6 | Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) for Limestone in Mangrur block, Adilabad District, Telangana | 2.51 | MMPL | Limestone | G3 | 08 | 0.69 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----|----|--------------|
| | [72nd TCC-1] | | | | | | |
| 7 | Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of Limestone in Ponar Block, Adilabad District, Telangana [72nd TCC-1] | 5.04 | MMPL | Limestone | G3 | 08 | 1.04 |
| 8 | Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of Limestone, Gadeghat -Khatera block, Yavatmal District, Maharashtra [72nd TCC-1] | 11.96 | MMPL | Limestone | G3 | 10 | 2.31 |
| 9 | Reconnaissance survey (G4) for REE and associated minerals in Nellikudur area Mahabubabad and Warrangal districts, Telangana [72nd TCC-1] | 154 | Critical Mineral Tracker | REE | G4 | 10 | 1.03 |
| 10 | Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Kalychohra block, Rayagada district, Odisha [72nd TCC-1] | 3.83 | DMG, Odisha | Bauxite | G3 | 12 | 0.99 |
| 11 | Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Nittadgi Block, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka [72nd TCC-1] | 4.40 | PRB Infra | Bauxite | G3 | 12 | 1.40 |
| 12 | Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Tungsten & Associated Minerals in Bodkipet block (intervening area between Kuhu and Khobna blocks), District: Nagpur, Maharashtra [72nd TCC-1] | 5.39 | MECL | Tungsten and associated minerals | G3 | 12 | 4.15 |
| Total-A | | | | | | | 22.62 |
| B. Projects approved by TCC-2 | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Reconnaissance (G4 Stage) for Gold in Jojobera-Ulihurang Block, Arki Block, Khunti District, Jharkhand [3rd TCC-2] | 10.61 | JEMCL | Gold | G4 | 10 | 1.13 |
| 14 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for REE and Associated Minerals in Umprikhola Block, Kamrup District, Assam | 4.80 | MECL | REE | G3 | 15 | 8.82 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|-------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----|----|------|
| | [3rd TCC-2] | | | | | | |
| 15 | Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Copper, Molybdenum, Tungsten & associated minerals in Hanspur Block, District Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh [3rd TCC-2] | 74.34 | MECL | Copper, Molybdenum, Tungsten | G4 | 10 | 1.62 |
| 16 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Glauconite, Phosphorite & REE in Ambara-Marub Block, District Kachchh, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | 94.25 | MECL | Glauconite | G4 | 10 | 2.30 |
| 17 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Limestone in and around Nanhwara Kymore area, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh [3rd TCC-2] | 22.52 | Engeotech | Limestone | G4 | 10 | 0.70 |
| 18 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for graphite in Korapara, Bankura District, West Bengal [3rd TCC-2] | 16.25 | MMPL | Graphite | G4 | 10 | 1.22 |
| 19 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Bauxite, Gallium, Vanadium, REE in Sandhan Block, Kachchh District, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | 9.85 | Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd | Bauxite and REE | G3 | 14 | 2.03 |
| 20 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Bauxite, Gallium, Vanadium & REE minerals in Naredi Bauxite Block, Kachchh District, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | 3.92 | Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd | Bauxite and REE | G3 | 14 | 2.33 |
| 21 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for establishing the occurrence of Lithium and associated minerals in Great Rann of Kachchh, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | 45 | CGM Gujarat | Lithium | G4 | 06 | 0.31 |
| 22 | Preliminary exploration (G3) for Iron ore and associated minerals in Amhawa Block, Sidhi District, Madhya Pradesh. [4th TCC-2] | 2.3 | MMPL | Iron Ore | G3 | 12 | 3.97 |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|-------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----|----|--------------|
| 23 | Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Bauxite, Ga, V, Ti & REE in Lakhond area, Kachchh District, Gujarat [4th TCC-2] | 4.95 | Critical Mineral Tracker | Bauxite, Titanium, Ga, V and REE | G4 | 10 | 0.60 |
| 24 | Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Bauxite, Ga, V, Ti & REE in Nadapa area Kachchh District, Gujarat [4th TCC-2] | 6.20 | Critical Mineral Tracker | Bauxite, Titanium, Ga, V and REE | G4 | 10 | 0.54 |
| 25 | Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Bauxite, Ga, V, Ti & REE in Reldi Moti area Kachchh District, Gujarat [4th TCC-2] | 7.95 | Critical Mineral Tracker | Bauxite, Titanium, Ga, V and REE | G4 | 10 | 0.55 |
| 26 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) of Graphite, Korapara East Block, Bankura District, West Bengal. [4th TCC-2] | 30.68 | MMPL | Graphite | G4 | 10 | 1.25 |
| Total-B | | | | | | | 27.37 |
| Total A+B | | | | | | | 49.99 |

Decision: EC accorded financial approval of ₹49.99 crore (Rs. Forty nine crore and ninety nine lakh only) for 26 new project proposals recommended by TCC-1 and TCC-2.

Agenda 39.10: Approval of Revised/Additional cost for ongoing projects recommended by TCC

A. Cost revision of Mineral Exploration Projects

TCC-2 at its 3rd and 4th meeting has recommended additional cost for following 8 mineral exploration projects:

| S. No. | Block/Project | Agency | Approved cost (in Rs Cr.) | Revised cost (in Rs Cr.) | Additional Cost (in Rs Cr.) | Remarks |
|--|--|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| A. Revised cost approved by TCC-2 | | | | | | |
| 1 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Bauxite, Titanium and associated minerals in Siskari Pat Block, Lohardaga District, Jharkhand [3rd TCC-2] | MECL | 0.74 | 0.76 | 0.02 | Chemical analysis of additional samples |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------|------|------|------|--|
| 2 | Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for Basemetal in Thal-Didihat–Askot area, Pithoragarh District, Uttarakhand” [3rd TCC2] | Geovale | 1.87 | 2.33 | 0.46 | Additional sampling and in-house drilling |
| 3 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Mailar Base Metal-Gold prospect block in Mailar area, Lalitpur District, Uttar Pradesh [3rd TCC2] | Geovale | 3.22 | 3.25 | 0.03 | Additional drilling of 4 drill hole with 200m depth. |
| 4 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for REE Exploration in Bhuj Clay Prospect Block, Kachchh District, Gujarat [3rd TCC2] | Geovale | 1.22 | 2.65 | 1.43 | Additional drilling |
| 5 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron Ore in Mahakoshal Group around Chakdiya, Kushaniya, Jobra and Tusgaon area, Sonbhadra district, Uttar Pradesh. [3rd TCC2] | GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd | 0.95 | 1.11 | 0.16 | Analysis of additional samples |
| 6 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron, Manganese and Associated Minerals in Tikariya Block, Districts-Jabalpur, Katni and Umariya, Madhya Pradesh. [4th TCC-2] | MECL | 2.22 | 2.24 | 0.02 | Additional drilling and sample analysis |
| 7 | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron Ore in Mahakoshal Group around Chakdiya, Kushaniya, Jobra and Tusgaon area, Sonbhadra district, Uttar Pradesh [4th TCC2] | GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd | 1.11 | 1.95 | 0.84 | Additional drilling |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------|------|------|-----|---------------------|
| 8 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for REE and Associated Minerals in Borana Block, Bhilwara District, Rajasthan [4 th TCC2] | GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd | 1.46 | 1.66 | 0.2 | Additional drilling |
|---|---|--------------------|------|------|-----|---------------------|

* Amount is inclusive of GST/-

B. Cost revision of procurement project of MECL

Chairman, TCC-1 apprised the house that EC in its 33rd meeting held on 23rd February 2024, had sanctioned ₹32.44 crore to MECL for procurement of following items:

| S. No. | Name of Equipment | Rate (approx. ₹Lakh) | Unit | Amount (in ₹lakh) |
|--------|--|----------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1 | Hyper Spectral Core Scanner with LIBS | 1868.00 | 01 | 1868.00 |
| 2 | Hyper Spectral Core Scanner with XRF | 1110.00 | 01 | 1110.00 |
| 3 | Gamma Ray Spectrophotometer | 30.00 | 02 | 60.00 |
| 4 | WD-XRF | 206.87 | 01 | 206.87 |
| | Total (excluding GST, custom duty etc.) | | | 3244.87 |

It was also decided in the 33rd EC meeting, that NMET will not bear the cost of AMC for more than 3 years after warranty of one year; MECL will have to bear the AMC cost thereafter.

The initial proposal of MECL for the procurement of WD-XRF was for ₹206.87 Lakh inclusive of 5 year warranty and no warranty/CAMC charges were indicated.

MECL have informed in their letter dt. 08.01.2025 that a global tender was issued on 05.06.2024 for the procurement of 01 WD-XRF with 1 year warranty and 3 years CAMC. The tender process concluded on 07.12.2024 with the L-1 bidder identified after evaluating techno-commercial offers. Following this, the letter of intent for supply of WD-XRF was issued to the L-1 bidder on 13.12.2024. Subsequently, supply order was issued to the L-1 bidder on 16.12.2024. MECL have informed that the revised cost of WD-XRF is as under:

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Cost of equipment: | ₹ 205.93 Lakh |
| CAMC/Extended warranty cost (For 3 years) | ₹ 41.52 Lakh |
| GST @ 18% | ₹ 44.54 Lakh |
| Total Cost Including CAMC & GST (A) | ₹ 291.99 Lakh |
| Earlier sanctioned amount including GST (B) | ₹ 244.11 Lakh |
| Additional Cost (A-B) | ₹ 47.88 Lakh |

TCC-1 at its 72nd meeting has recommended the revised cost of WD-XRF of ₹ 291.99 Lakh including 3 years CAMC (of ₹ 41.52 Lakh post one year warranty period) and GST @18%.

Decision: EC accorded approval for (i) additional cost of the 8 ongoing exploration projects as per (A) above and (ii) revised cost of WD-XRF amounting to ₹291.99 Lakh including 3 years CAMC (of ₹ 41.52 Lakh post one year warranty period) and GST @18% to MECL as per the above.

Agenda 39.11: Approval for cancellation of ongoing project

TCC-1 has recommended the cancellation of following proposal for approval of EC:

| S. No. | Block/Project | Agency | Approved cost (in Crores) | Remarks |
|---------------|--|---------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) Malangtoli Iron Ore (C-sub block), Districts- Sundargarh & Kendujhar, Odisha [72nd TCC] | MECL | 12.02 | 1. Forest clearance not received. 2. Project has been withdrawn from MECL and block has been given to OMC, Odisha by DMG, Odisha. |

Discussion:

Chairman, TCC-1 apprised EC that the aforesaid project was approved in 8th EC Meeting held on 12th June, 2018 with a timeline of 12 months. MECL applied for forest clearance on 20.9.2019 but has not received the permission till date. Further, Government of Odisha has restructured the Malangtoli “C” sub block by excluding the forest area and allotted the block to OMC for G2 level of exploration and the particular block has been withdrawn from MECL.

Decision: EC approved cancellation of the project titled “Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) Malangtoli Iron Ore (C-sub block), Districts- Sundargarh & Kendujhar, Odisha.”

Agenda 39.12: Approval for Extension of Timeline for ongoing projects recommended by TCC

TCC-1 at its 71st and 72nd meetings and TCC-2 at its 3rd and 4th meetings held in the month of November and December 2024 have recommended the following 29 ongoing proposals for extension of timeline for approval of EC:

| S. No. | Block/Project | Agency | Scheduled date of completion | Required timeline (up to) | Remarks |
|--|--|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| A. Timeline extension approved by TCC-1 | | | | | |
| 1. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Gold in Kakol Block, Haveri District, Karnataka [71st TCC-1] | MECL | 4.10.2024 | 4.4.2025 (6 months) | Based on the outcome of geophysical studies, drilling plan revised. |
| 2. | Reconnaissance survey (G-4 stage) for iron ore in Gopaltola (Salhewara) Block, District-Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh [71st TCC-1] | DGM Chhattisgarh | 15.10.2024 | 15.12.2024 (2 months) | GR Submission |
| 3. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Graphite in Lamer-Panga Block (49 sq. Km) in Kalahandi District of Odisha [71st TCC-1] | OMC | 31.10.2024 | 15.12.2024 (2.5 months) | For GR submission |
| 4. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Graphite in Darukona Block (119 sq.km.), Rayagada District, Odisha. [71st TCC-1] | MMPL | 14.12.2024 | 31.3.2025 (3.5 month) | For GR submission |
| 5. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Kanapulisi Graphite Block (98.3 sq.km.), Rayagada District, Odisha [71st TCC-1] | MMPL | 14.12.2024 | 31.3.2025 (3.5 month) | For GR submission |
| 6. | Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities [71st TCC-1] | DMG Goa | 16.4.2024 | 31.3.2025 (11.5 months) | Delay in supply of instrument by the supplier |
| 7. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Gold & assoc. minerals in Sirigeri Block (2 sq.km.), Ballari district, Karnataka [72nd TCC-1] | DMG, Karnataka | 14.12.2024 | 14.6.2025 (6 month) | Delay in drilling and GR Submission |
| 8. | Multi-sensor aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 14 under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme. [72nd TCC-1] | GSI | 1.03.2025 | 31.3.2026 (13 months) | Mobilization of the 2nd aircraft is getting delayed due to the low visibility and bad weather conditions |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|---|
| 9. | Multi-sensor aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 5 under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP). [72nd TCC-1] | | 1.03.2025 | 31.1.2026 (11 months) | Delay in obtaining clearance from DGCA |
| 10. | Multi-sensor aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 15 under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP). [72nd TCC-1] | | 1.03.2025 | 28.2.2026 (12 months) | PIA has not received permission from DGCA for inclusion of two aircrafts and NOC application for importing the 2nd aircraft is still awaited. |
| 11. | Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [72nd TCC-1] | DGM, Maharashtra | 30.9.24 | 15.3.2025 (5.5 months) | MCC due to Assembly election and Lok Sabha election |

B. Timeline extension approved by TCC-2

| | | | | | |
|-----|--|-----------------|------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 12. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Chhasra Block, Kachchh District, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | CGM, Gujarat | 27.08.2024 | 28.02.2025 (6 months) | GR Submission |
| 13. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Vayor Block, Kachchh, District, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | CGM, Gujarat | 27.08.2024 | 28.02.2025 (6 months) | GR Submission |
| 14. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Jadvia Block, Kachchh, District, Gujarat [3rd TCC-2] | CGM, Gujarat | 27.08.2024 | 28.02.2025 (6 months) | GR Submission |
| 15. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 stage) for Bauxite, Titanium and associated minerals in Siskari Pat Block, Lohardaga District, Jharkhand [3rd TCC-2] | MECL | 30.11.2024 | 31.12.2024 (1 month) | Analysis of additional samples and GR Submission |
| 16. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for copper and associated minerals in Sitapur Block, Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh. [3rd TCC-2] | MECL | 11.12.2024 | 11.06.2025 (3 months) | GR Submission |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|---------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 17. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Gold, Copper, Graphite and associated minerals in Jamtola-Khandapar Block, Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh [3rd TCC-2] | MECL | 11.12.2024 | 30.06.2025 (6.5 months) | GR Submission |
| 18. | Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities [3rd TCC-2] | DGM, Uttar Pradesh | 2.4.2024 | 31.3.2025 (12 months) | Administrative Delay |
| 19. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron Ore in Mahakoshal Group around Chakdiya, Kushaniya, Jobra and Tusgaon area, Sonbhadra district, Uttar Pradesh [3rd TCC-2] | Geoexpore | 27.11.2024 | 26.5.2025 (6 months) | Additional sampling and GR submission |
| 20. | Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities [3rd TCC-2] | DMR, Meghalaya | 6.12.2024 | 31.03.2025 (3.5 months) | Delay due to specification finalization of microscope |
| 21. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for PGE, Vanadium & associated minerals in Bhursadongari - Murum Block (100 Sq Km), Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh [4th TCC-2] | Gemcokati Pvt. Ltd. | 11.9.2024 | 31.3.2025 (6 months) | Forest clearance |
| 22. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for PGE, Gold & REE in Maneri-Sitapala Block, Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh [4th TCC-2] | Gemcokati Pvt. Ltd. | 31.12.2024 | 31.03.2025 (3 months) | Forest clearance |
| 23. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for REE & Rare Metals in Kumhardih-Khijuri-Pachamba Block, Giridih District, State: Jharkhand [4th TCC-2] | MECL | 31.12.2024 | 10.1.2025 (10 days) | GR Submission |
| 24. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Rock Phosphate in Nimbli Block, Jaisalmer District, Rajasthan [4th TCC-2] | MECL | 31.12.2024 | 28.2.2025 (2 months) | GR Submission |

| | | | | | |
|-----|--|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|---|
| 25. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Diamond in Angira B Block, Chhatarpur District, Madhya Pradesh [4th TCC-2] | MECL | 25.9.2024 | 25.5.2025 (8 months) | Forest issue and GR Submission |
| 26. | Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Iron, Manganese and Associated Minerals in Tikariya Block, Districts- Jabalpur, Katni and Umaria, Madhya Pradesh. [4th TCC-2] | MECL | 31.12.2024 | 31.3.2025 (3 months) | Additional drilling and sample analysis |
| 27. | Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Bhatura Block (1.5 sq.km.), Satna district, Madhya Pradesh [4th TCC-2] | MPSMC | 11.08.2024 | 11.3.2025 (8 months) | GR Submission |
| 28. | Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities [4th TCC-2] | DGM Madhya Pradesh | 12.4.2024 | 12.5.2025 (13 months) | Delay due to administrative formalities and MCC of Loksabha |
| 29. | Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities [4th TCC-2] | DMM West Bengal | 15.10.2024 | 15.3.2025 | Administrative Delay |

Decision: EC approved timeline extension for the 29 ongoing projects.

Agenda 39.12: Approval for funding of projects under S&T PRISM Scheme from NMET.

The Apex Committee under S&T PRISM Scheme, Ministry of Mines, at its 3rd meeting held on 02.1.2025 had recommended 11 proposals for execution through JNARDDC from NMET funds. The estimated cost of the projects is ₹15.97/- Cr (Rs. Fifteen crore ninety seven lakh only). This step would provide a boost to respective Startups and MSMEs.

The details of the project proposals are as under:

| S. No. | Proposal Title | Startup/MSME Name | Project Cost (₹ in Cr.) | Duration (in months) |
|--------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
|--------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|------|----|
| 1 | Processing of Indian Rock Phosphate to produce high quality Import Substitute Fertilizer | Ishita International, Nagpur Maharashtra | 1.99 | 24 |
| 2 | Production of High Pure Chromium Metal for Defence and Aerospace Applications | RegenMaterials Pvt. Ltd., Bhubaneswar, Odisha | 1.60 | 21 |
| 3 | Zinc metal as energy storage: mechanically rechargeable zincair batteries as long-duration energy storage for grid applications | Sthyr Energy Private Limited, Chennai, Tamil Nadu | 1.96 | 18 |
| 4 | Large Scale Production of TwoDimensional Ti3C2TX MXene Nanomaterial from Industrial Waste for Advanced applications | Reseapro Labs Pvt. Ltd, Bhubaneswar, Odisha | 1.53 | 24 |
| 5 | Manufacturing of Thermal spray powders and Sintered Tungsten Carbide products | PR & SE CARBIDES PVT LTD, Hyderabad, Telangana | 1.48 | 18 |
| 6 | NdPr Metal Production through Molten Salt Electrolysis Technology | PG TECH PVT. LTD., Indore, Madhya Pradesh | 0.99 | 18 |
| 7 | Solvent Extractants and IonExchange Resin chemicals for Strategic and Rare Earth Metal Recovery | PolyProtic Chemicals Pvt. Ltd, Vadodara, Gujarat | 1.20 | 24 |
| 8 | High thermal conducting heat exchanger and heat sink using recycled aluminium composite | Aayogh Engineering Pvt Ltd, Bhubaneswar, ODISHA | 1.50 | 24 |
| 9 | Highly energy efficient ElectroKompact system for removal of metal and high TDS from mineral industry effluent to achieve zero liquid discharge | Ecologique Science Technik (India) Pvt Ltd, Nagpur, Maharashtra | 1.50 | 20 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--------------|----|
| 10 | Eco-friendly Innovation: Crafting High-Quality Silicon Dioxide from Quartzite | SKANDA PRECISION DESIGN, Mysore, Karnataka | 1.50 | 24 |
| 11 | Mineral Resource Estimation and AI-based Borehole Site Selection | Zwilling Labs Private Limited, Mumbai, Maharashtra | 0.72 | 15 |
| Total Approved | | | 15.97 | |

Decision: EC accorded financial approval of ₹15.97 crore towards funding of 11 projects under S&T PRISM scheme.

Discussions

After the agenda items were discussed, suggestions from the technical experts were sought which are given below:

- (i) Shri. L. S. Shekhawat, Dy. Director General (Retd.) informed the house that the reports of NMET funded exploration projects are uploaded on NMET website and in some of the reports annexures are not attached. These annexures contain analytical results which are important for interpretation. Therefore, reports with complete annexures should be uploaded on the website. Chairman, EC instructed NMET Secretariat to ensure that the missing annexures are uploaded and henceforth the reports be uploaded with complete annexures.

[Action: NMET]

- (ii) It was reiterated that the services of Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs) which are notified by Ministry of Mines be directly utilized by CMPDIL for coal exploration by establishing a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) with a pre-defined Schedule of Charges, on the pattern existing in NMET.

[Action: Ministry of Coal]

- (iii) Chairman, EC stated that about 2600 geological reports have been prepared by various State Governments in past few decades. These reports need to be evaluated for their geological potential. He advised the Chairmen of TCC-1 & TCC-2 to evaluate these reports for

determining the feasibility of further exploration or auction by the States/Central Government. In this process they may obtain the assistance of the DDGs (SU), GSI. The progress in this matter to be apprised to EC at its next meeting.

[Action: Chairmen TCC-1 & TCC-2 & GSI]

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

List of Participant

| Sl. No. | Name and Designation | Status | Remarks |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Shri V.L Kantha Rao Secretary, Ministry of Mines | Chairperson, ex officio | Physical |
| 2 | Shri PN Sharma Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines | Member, ex officio | Online |
| 3 | Shri Vivek Kumar Bajpai Joint Secretary Ministry of Mines | Member, ex officio | Physical |
| 4 | Shri Dheeraj Pande Director Dept. of Atomic Energy | Member, ex officio | Online |
| 5 | Shri Birendra Thakur Director (Tech), Representative of Joint Secretary Ministry of Coal | Member, ex officio | Physical |
| 6 | Smt. Geetika Shamra Dy. Secretary Ministry of Mines | HoD, NMET | Physical |
| 7 | Anand Kumar Jha Director (E-I), Representative of Joint Secretary Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas | Member, ex officio | Online |
| 8 | Shri Thaneshwar Kumar Under Secretary, Representative of Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor Ministry of Mines | Member, ex officio | Physical |
| 9 | Shri Shiladitya Sengupta Dy. Director General, PSS Representative of Director General Geological Survey of India | Member, ex officio | Online |
| 10 | Dr. T R K Rao, Director General DGM, Maharashtra | Members, ex officio | Through VC |
| 11 | Shri Vivek Nema Dy. Director Mineral Resource Department Govt. of Madhya Pradesh | Members, ex officio | Through VC |
| 12 | Smt. K Deepa Joint Director Commissionerate of Geology and Mining Government of Tamil Nadu | Member, ex Officio | Through VC |
| 13 | Shri S. N. Dodiya Additional Director Mines and Geology Govt. of Rajasthan | Member, ex Officio | Through VC |
| 14 | Shri Alok Sharma GM (Exploration) (Retd.) CMPDIL | Technical Expert | Through VC |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|------------|
| 15 | Shri Naresh Nautiyal Head (Business Development & Planning) (Retd.) MECL | Technical Expert | Through VC |
| 16 | Dr. Yamuna Singh Scientist-H (Retd.) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research | Technical Expert | Through VC |
| 17 | Dr. Laxman Singh Shekhawat Dy. Director General (Retd.) Geological Survey of India | Technical Expert | Through VC |
| 18 | Dr. Sahendra Singh Professor Department of Applied Geology Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) | Technical Expert | Through VC |
| INVITEES | | | |
| 19 | Dr. S Ravi Dy. Director General and Chairman, TCC-1, NMET | Invitee | Online |
| 20 | Shri Pradeep Singh Dy. Director General and Chairman, TCC-2, NMET | Invitee | Physical |
| 21 | Shri Abhishek Das Sr. Geologist, Representative of Director (Tech.) Ministry of Mines | Invitee | Physical |
| Officers of NMET | | | |
| 22 | Smt. Anju C S | Suptdg. Geologist | Physical |
| 23 | Shri Seababrata Das | Senior Geologist | Physical |
| 24 | Smt. Palak Kapoor | Senior Geologist | Physical |
| 25 | Dr. Rajesh Sharma | Senior Geologist | Physical |
| 26 | Shri Ravi Dutt | Cost Accounts Officer | Physical |
| 27 | Shri Akshay Kumar Verma | Geologist | Physical |
| 28 | Shri Jayant Gupta | Asst. Cost Accounts Officer | Physical |
| 29 | Shri Yogesh Agarwal | Assistant | Physical |