

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust
Minutes of the 4th Joint Meeting of Technical-cum-Cost Committees held on
10th November, 2025 through Hybrid Mode

The 4th Joint meeting of Technical Cum-Cost Committees (TCC-I & TCC-II) of National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) was held on 10th November, 2025 in hybrid mode to allocate 15 number of blocks carved out by Geological Survey of India from Siwana Ring Complex, Rajasthan for exploration through NMEDT fund. The meeting was combined chaired by Dr. S. Ravi, Dy. Director General, Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Chairman, TCC-I and Shri Pradeep Singh, Dy. Director General, Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Chairman, TCC-II. Other members of both the committees attended the meeting through VC mode.

The list of participants is provided in Annexure-1.

Dr. S. Ravi, Chairman, TCC-I, extended a warm welcome to all members and apprised them of the purpose of the meeting. In his opening address, Dr. Ravi informed the committee that GSI has carved out 15 blocks in the Siwana Ring Complex, Rajasthan, and submitted them to NMEDT for taking up detailed exploration through NMEDT's funding.

Shri Pradeep Singh, Chairman, TCC-II, in his opening remarks, outlined the process to be followed while allocating the blocks and invited all members to share their views and observations during the selection of agencies for the 15 exploration blocks. He further emphasized that the allocation will be carried out only after a thorough assessment of each agency's overall capability, including their past performance, manpower availability, and financial strength.

The committee was apprised that the Siwana Ring Complex (SRC) lies within the Barmer and Balotra districts of Rajasthan, covering an area of approximately 750 sq. km. Each exploration block carved out by GSI is of about 2 sq. km in size (Table 1). The proposed blocks are situated in the northern part of the Siwana Ring Complex.

The current blocks require minimum of G3 stage (Preliminary) of exploration and are carved out based on the outcomes of G4 stage (Reconnaissance Survey) exploration work carried out by GSI.

In addition to earlier exploratory findings, aeromagnetic studies clearly delineate the regional continuity of magnetically susceptible litho-units within the SRC, even in soil-covered terrain. Further, the spectrometric potassium and thorium maps of the area too indicate that the proposed blocks possess favourable potential for rare earth element (REE) mineralization within the exposed portions of the complex.

Table 1: List of 15 blocks of SRC		
Sl. No.	Block No.	Area (sq. km.)
1	NB-1	2.00
2	NB-2	2.00
3	NB-3	2.00
4	NB-4	2.00
5	NB-5	2.00
6	NB-6	2.19
7	NB-7	2.00

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8	NB-8	2.00
9	NB-9	2.00
10	NB-10	2.00
11	NB-11	2.00
12	NB-12	2.00
13	NB-13	2.00
14	NB-14	2.42
15	NB-15	2.00

After thorough and extended deliberations on multiple aspects, members of both committees unanimously agreed to classify the participating agencies based on the following parameters:

- Core competency of the agency.
- Human resources, including available manpower, and the number of projects currently in progress or in the pipeline for approval (at the PSC stage).
- Notification and accreditation status of the agency.
- Track record of projects executed under NMEDT, including adherence to timelines and quality of execution.
- Financial soundness, ensuring the agency is capable of completing the project without delays.

During the meeting, AMD informed that approximately 70 sq. km in the Siwana Ring Complex area has been notified by the Government of Rajasthan for AMD to carry out systematic exploration for REEs and the same still has validity.

The members suggested that the overlap between the 15 proposed blocks and the AMD-notified areas should be verified before the final allocation of blocks to various agencies for exploration.

Further discussions and deliberations among the members led to the following conclusions:

- If an agency is shortlisted based on its past record and quality of execution, but is currently lagging behind in manpower, it may still be considered provided the agency intends to increase its manpower. Such enhancement in human resources must be formally notified and approved by QCI-NABET.
- If an agency is allocated blocks, then at the time of submitting the exploration proposal, the agency must submit a list of earmarked officers and geoscientists designated for the project.

After checking the overlap status of AMD blocks, it was found that 4 out of 15 proposed blocks are completely overlapping, while 1 is partly overlapping with the GSI's carved blocks.

The committee opined that the AMD's overlapped blocks may not be allocated to any agency as the notification period is still active. Further, the committee also decided to amalgamate the block with partial overlapping with the adjoining block and the amalgamated block is allocated to MECL.

In view of the above the allocation of blocks is as given below (Table 2):

Table 2: Allocated Blocks		
Sl. No.	Agency	Block No.
1.	MECL	NB10, Part of NB9

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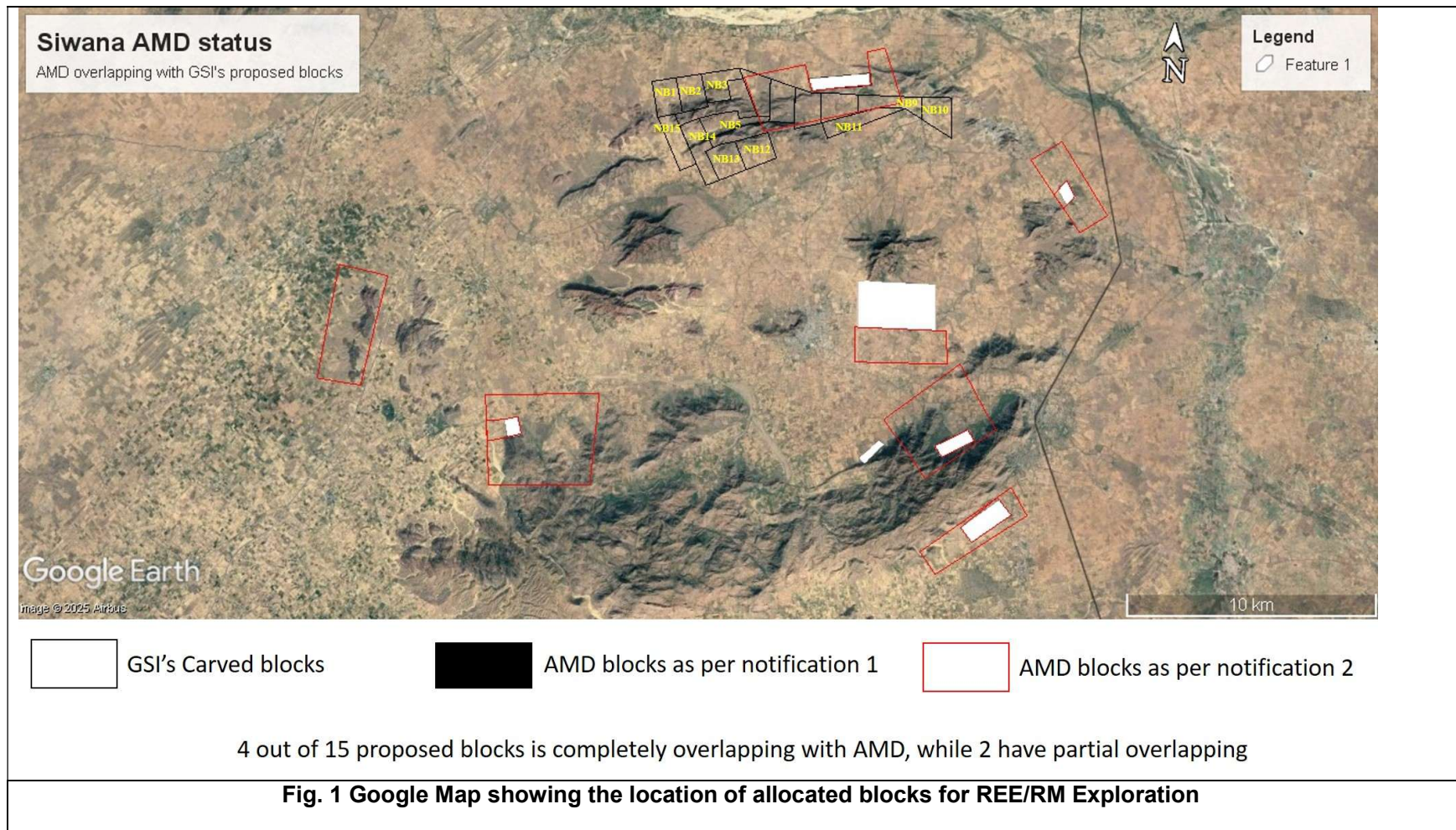
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2.	FAGMIL	NB11
3.	United Exploration India Pvt. Ltd.	NB3
4.	Hindmetal Exploration Services Private Limited	NB1
5.	Ocean Drilling	NB15
6.	Gemcokati Exploration Private Limited	NB14
7.	GeoExpOre Pvt Ltd	NB5
8.	Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited	NB2
9.	Natural Resources Division-Tata Steel Limited	NB12 & NB13

The selected agency is suggested to submit the DPR within 5 days.

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**List of participants attended 4th Joint Meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committees of
NMEDT held on 10th November, 2025, through Hybrid 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. Pradeep Singh	Dy. Director General, GSI, Kolkata	ddg.it@gsi.gov.in	9810233957	Chairman, TCC -II
3	Shri. I.R. Kirmani	ADG (Retd.), GSI	irkirmani@yahoo.com	9414014723	Member TCC-1
4	Shri. M. Mohan	Dy. Director General (Retd.), GSI	mariappan.mohan@gmail.com	9423686547	Member TCC-1
5	Shri. K. Koteswara Rao	Dy.D.G. (Retd.) GSI	kkrao1957@gmail.com	9000117969	Member TCC-1
6	Dr. S. K. Kulshrestha	DDG-RMH-III, NER, GSI, Shillong	s.kulshrestha@gsi.gov.in	9413330658	Member TCC-1
7	Sh. A. R. Mukundhan	Regional Director, AMD, South Central Region	mukuagaram@rediffmail.com	6303606347	Member TCC-1
8	Dr.E.V.S.S.K. Babu	Scientist (G), NGRI	evsskbabu@ngri.res.in	9441535852	Member TCC-1
9	Shri. S.K. Adhikari	Chief Mining Geologist, IBM, Nagpur	skadhikari@ibm.gov.in	7588690545	Member TCC-1
10	Ms. Geetika Sharma	Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET, Ministry of Mines	geetika.sharma@gov.in	-	Member TCC-II
11	Shri. P.K. Maharana	DGM (Finance), NALCO, Bhubaneswar	pmaharana@rediffmail.com	8500669500	Member TCC-1
12	Shri. Ravi Kumar Gupta	General Manager (Finance) HCL, Kolkata	ravi_g@hindustancopper.com	9433274328	Member TCC-1
13	Smt. Vandana	Cost Accounts Officer, RSAS, Bangalore, GSI	vandana@gsi.in	8660939235	Member TCC-1
14	Shri. C. Parthasarathi	Director, GSI & Member Secretary, TCC- NMEDT, GSI, Bengaluru	c.parthasarathi@gsi.gov.in	9483186932	Member Secretary TCC-1
15	Shri. Sanjay Singh	Director, GSI, Western Region, Jaipur	sanjay.singh3@gsi.gov.in	9928860884	Member Secretary TCC-II
16	Shri. B S Jodha	Dy. Director General (Retired), GSI	jodha1961@gmail.com	9414023478	Member TCC-II
17	Shri. Sunil Kumar Vashisth	GM (Retired), Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur	sunilhzi@gmail.com	9829059236	Member TCC-II

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19	Shri. D.S.Jeere	Director, GSI, RSAS Bengaluru.	dattatreya.jeere@gsi.gov.in	-	Member TCC-II
20	Shri M.K.Patel	Dy. Director General (Retired), GSI	patelmk27@gmail.com	9040011231	Member TCC-II
21	Dr. M. K. Mukherjee	Associate Professor IIT (ISM) Dhanbad	mrinal@iitism.ac.in	9431711148	Member TCC-II
22	Dr. T.S.Sunil Kumar	Addl. Director (Retired), AMD	ts.sunilkumar@gmail.co m	9502560153	Member TCC-II
23	Shri. Alok Kumar	Deputy Secretary (IFD), Ministry of Mines	alok.kumar@nic.in	-	Member TCC-II
24	Shri. Anoop Kumar	CAO, GSI, CHQ Kolkata, GSI	anoop.kumar2@gsi.gov.in	-	Member TCC-II
25	Shri Sudeep Manish Toppo	Director	sudeep.toppo@gsi.gov.in	9065146048	GSI
26	Smt. Anju C.S	Superintending Geologist	nmet-mines@gov.in	8588836933	NMEDT
27	Ms. Bishakha	Sr. Geologist	nmet-mines@gov.in	8126541605	NMEDT
28	Shri Manish Kumar	Geophysicist	nmet-mines@gov.in	9652258670	NMEDT

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