

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
NATIONAL MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST

No. 117/1/2025/NMET/_____

New Delhi, Dated: 18/02/2026

Subject: Circulation of minutes of 5th meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) of National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) held on 9th February, 2026

Please find enclosed herewith the minutes of 5th meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee of NMEDT held on 9th February, 2026 for your kind perusal.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: As above


[Geetika Sharma]
Director (Project) & HoD, NMEDT

To all attendees of PSC Meeting

1. Shri Anshoo Pandey, Director, NCMM, Ministry of Mines, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi.
1. Shri Birendra Thakur, Director (Tech.), Ministry of Coal, ShastriBhawan, New Delhi.
2. Shri N K Panda, Regional Director, Southern Region, Atomic Mineral Exploration and Research Directorate, Nagarbhavi, Bangaluru.
3. Shri Jayanta Kumar Naik, Director, NM-II, Geological Survey of India, Nagpur.
4. Shri Bhupinder Kumar, Director, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.
5. Shri Abhay Agrawal, Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur.
2. Shri Alok Kumar, Dy. Secretary, IFD, Mines, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi.
6. Shri Ravi Dutt, Cost Accounts Officer, NMEDT, UdyogBhawan, New Delhi.
7. Shri Gopal Ram, Additional Director Geology (HQ), DMG, Rajasthan.

8. Shri Vinod Bagdey, Additional Director, Mineral Resource Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
9. Shri S. P. Kadoo, Deputy Director, DGM Maharashtra, Govt. of Maharashtra.
10. Ms. Deepa, Deputy Director, (Geology and Mining) Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
11. Shri Bhagwati Prasad Raturi, Ex -GM (Exploration), MECL, Lane N0-7, New Garhwal Colony Near MalsiPuliya, Balawala, Dehradun-248019, Uttarakhand
12. Shri Pankaj Satija, NTH Complex, 4th Floor, A-2 Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi.
13. Shri Hanuma Prasad Modali, Deccan Gold Mines Limited, No 77, 16th Cross, Sector IV, HSR Layout, Bangalore 560102.
14. Dr. P Krishnamurthy (Technical Expert, PSC), Flat No. 103, A Block, IGV Apts., Ideal Homes Township, RR Nagar, Bengaluru.
15. Prof. T. K. Biswal, B- 4, 101, IIT Bhubaneswar Campus, Argul, Jatni, Khordha, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, 752050.

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
2. The Principal Secretary (Industry and Mines), Government of Gujarat.
3. The Secretary (Industries, Mines and Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
4. The Secretary, (Industries and Commerce), Government of Karnataka.
5. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
6. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
7. The Principal Secretary (Steel and Mines), Government of Odisha.
8. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
9. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Kesavadasapuram, Pattom Palace P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695004, Kerala, India.

10. The Principal Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Telangana.
11. The Dy. Director General, PSS, GSI, CHQ, 27 JLN Road, Kolkata-700016.
12. Dr. S Ravi, Dy. Director General and Chairman, TCC-1 (Special Invitee, PSC), GSI Training Institute, Hyderabad
13. Shri Pradeep Singh, Dy. Director General and Chairman, TCC-2 (Special Invitee, PSC), CHQ, GSI, 27, JLN Road, Kolkata
14. Shri S Dhanendran, Director/Member Secretary, TCC-1 (Special Invitee, PSC), GSI Training Institute, Hyderabad.
15. Shri Sanjay Singh, Director/Member Secretary, TCC-2 (Special Invitee, PSC), GSI, Western Region, Jaipur
16. The General Manager (Exploration), Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur - 440006.
17. 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
18. M/s Ocean Drilling and Exploration Pvt. Ltd., 24 A, Shanti Nagar, Bani Vihar, Near Diamond Residency, Jothwara, Jaipur- 332012.
19. The Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd., Paryawas Bhawan, Block 'A', II nd floor, Jail Road, Arera Hills, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh 462027
20. M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., GN 38/5, 3rd Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata, West Bengal 700091
21. M/s MMPL Pvt. Ltd., 21, CLM Lane, Raniganj, Dist: Burdwan, West Bengal, Pin- 713347.
22. M/s Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions, 17, Advaita Ashram Rd, Arthanari Nagar, Fairlands, Salem, Tamil Nadu-636004.
23. The General Manager (ME), Mineral Exploration Department, KIOCL Limited, Bangalore - 560034.
24. M/s PRB Infra, S-3, 2nd Floor, Ratan Heights, Medical Chowk, Chandan Nagar, Nagpur, Maharashtra-440009.

25. M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Services Ltd., Adani Corporate House; Shantigram; Near Vaishno Devi Circle; SG Highway Khodiyar NA; Ahmedabad, Gujarat- 382421.
26. M/s Steiger Geoscience and Engineering Private Ltd.
27. M/s Envirogreen Consultants (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Copy for kind information to:

3. PSO to Secretary, Mines/Chairman EC, NMEDT, Ministry of Mines, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi.
4. PPS to Director General, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust, Ministry of Mines, 4 Sansad Marg, PTI Building, KABIL, New Delhi.
5. PPS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, ShastriBhawan, New Delhi.

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration & Development Trust
Minutes for 5th Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) meeting, NMEDT
held on 09.02.2026

The 5th meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) was held under Chairmanship of Shri Pankaj Garg, Director General, NMEDT on 09.02.2026 at Conference Hall, 4th Floor, GPOA 3.0, New Delhi in hybrid mode. The list of participants is given at Annexure-1.

Smt. Geetika Sharma, Director (Projects) & Member Secretary, PSC extended a warm welcome to all members and informed that the project proposals recommended in the 88th and 89th meetings of TCC-1 and 21st meeting of TCC-2 were placed before the Committee for consideration and decision.

Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1)

Agenda 5.1: Approval of new exploration project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1)

The PSC members were informed that TCC-1 at its 88th and 89th meetings have recommended the following 13 mineral exploration proposals with an estimated cost of Rs. 43.99 crore for the approval of PSC:

								Amount in Rs. Crore
Sl. No.	Project/Block Name	Area (in km ²)	Agency	Commodity	Stage	Duration (months)	Cost	Decision of PSC
1	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone and Manganese in Hathighat block, District: Adilabad, Telangana [88 th TCC-1]	11.28	MECL	Limestone and Manganese	G3	12	2.09	Approved
2	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone and Manganese in Tamsi block, District: Adilabad, Telangana [88 th TCC-1]	6.70	MECL	Limestone and Manganese	G3	10	1.25	Approved
3	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Paradva-Amrapar Blocks A-B-C-D, Jamnagar District, Gujarat [88 th TCC-1]	9.07	CGM Gujarat	Limestone	G3	8	1.32	Approved
4	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Gold in Kanivihalli Block, Davangere District, Karnataka [81 st TCC-1] [88 th TCC-1]	30	Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.	Gold	G3	45 6	6.0 1.92	1 st and 2 nd phases of project approved initially
5	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Base metals and Associated Mineralization in Jotri-Peepal Block, Tehsil-Pahadi & Seekri, District-Deeg, State-Rajasthan [88 th TCC-1]	30	Steiger Geoscience and Engineering Private Ltd.	Base Metal and associated mineralization	G3	45 12	4.82	Approved
6	Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Graphite in Kodabata Block, Rayagada District, Odisha [80 th TCC-1] [1 st PSC] [88 th TCC-1]	1	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	Graphite	G3	12	3.05	Deferred. Project is deferred as the block is being considered for auction
7	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite in Saharha Block, Rayagada District, Odisha [80 th TCC-1] [1 st PSC] [88 th TCC-1]	2.10	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	Graphite	G3	12	3.26	Approved

8	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE, RM and Other Critical Minerals in Udaipur-Ramgarh area, Sarguja District, Chhattisgarh [80 th TCC-1] [1 st PSC] [88 th TCC-1]	150	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	REE, RM and Critical Minerals	G4	12	1.35	Approved
9	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for graphite in Belkurta Block, District: Balrampur, Chhattisgarh [88 th TCC-1]	1.83	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	Graphite	G3	12	2.74	Rejected
10	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Critical & Associated Minerals in Kanore-Bari Sadri area in Udaipur & Chittorgarh districts, Rajasthan [89 th TCC-1]	120	Envirogreen Consultants (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Critical & Associated Minerals	G4	10	2.05	Approved
11	Preliminary exploration (G3) for rare earth elements and associated mineralization in North of Kuship Block, Balotra District, Rajasthan [11 th TCC-2] [1 st PSC] [89 th TCC-1]	2.3	Ocean Drilling and Exploration Pvt. Ltd.	REE and associated minerals	G3	12	6.82	Approved
12	Preliminary exploration for rare earth elements and associated mineralization in Ramdevji ki Beri Block, Balotra District, Rajasthan (UNFC Stage- G3) [11 th TCC-2] [1 st PSC] [89 th TCC-1]	1.64	Ocean Drilling and Exploration Pvt. Ltd.	REE and associated minerals	G3	12	5.31	Deferred The project mentioned at Sl. 11 is similar and the agency has previously already been allocated a block in Siwana Ring Complex in same area
13	General Exploration (G-2) for Graphite and Associated Minerals in Nagapuzha-Vadakhol Block, District: Ernakulam, Kerala [76 th TCC-1] [42 nd EC] #	2.60	MECL	Graphite and associated minerals	G2	12	3.93	Approved
Total Projects			13		Total Cost (A)		28.81	

#The project mentioned at Sl. No. 13 was approved during 42nd meeting of EC held on 02.06.2025. The approval was subject to receipt of NoC from State DGM. Till date NoC from DGM Kerala has not been received.

Decision of PSC: The PSC approved 10 mineral exploration projects amounting to Rs. 28.81 Cr., recommended by TCC-1. The project mentioned at Sl. No. 6 is deferred as the block is being considered for auction. The project mentioned at Sl. No. 9 is rejected as the block have been shortlisted for upcoming tranche of auction. The project mentioned at Sl. No. 12 has been deferred as the projects mentioned at Sl. 11 is similar and the agency has previously already been allocated a block in Siwana Ring Complex in same area. Only phase I and Phase II work costing Rs. 1.92 Cr (as per Annexure I) has been approved now for project mentioned at Sl. No. 4.

**Agenda 5.2: Undertaking Geochemical Analysis of mine samples of Iron Ore and Limestone Mines by IBM through NMEDT fund.
(Agency: IBM)**

IBM has informed that they have taken up a project to carry out Geochemical Analysis of Mine samples, drawn from mine faces, mineral stacks, dumps, tailings, process samples and smelter slags across the country to identify critical minerals, through NMEDT fund. During the study, IBM has collected 2383 samples from 311 mines, 32 beneficiation plants and 27 smelter and refineries. The outcome of the study was presented before the Hon'ble Minister of Mines on 02nd December, 2025 and was well received for their scientific outcomes and relevance to national mineral security. During the discussion, the Hon'ble Minister of Mines also enquired about the future action plan, to which IBM proposed to take up similar studies of iron ore and limestone mines in the country.

Subsequently, IBM has submitted a proposal for undertaking geochemical analysis of mine samples of Iron Ore and Limestone Mines through NMEDT funding on 09.01.2026. IBM have informed that iron ore deposits may host critical minerals such as vanadium, titanium, cobalt, and nickel, while limestone deposits particularly dolomitic, phosphatic, and impurity-rich varieties may contain strontium, phosphorus, rare earth elements, and other associated elements. Apart from that, Banded Iron Formation (BIF) hosted iron ore deposits are also known to be associated with gold mineralization, particularly along structurally controlled zones such as shear zones, fractures, and altered horizons within or adjoining BIF sequences. Considering the large volumes of waste generated from iron ore and limestone mining and processing operations, Systematic geochemical assessment of these materials is proposed to evaluate their potential as secondary sources of critical minerals and to promote improved resource utilization and sustainable mining practices.

IBM have further informed that total 1500 samples (including 136 check samples) will be collected from 73 limestone mines and 51 iron ore mines (total 124 mines). Out of 1500 samples,

100 samples will be analyzed at IBM in-house laboratory and rest 1400 samples will be analysed at JNARDDC and MECL.

TCC-1 at its 88th meeting held on 16th and 17th January, 2026 has recommended the proposal titled “Undertaking Geochemical Analysis of mine samples of Iron Ore and Limestone Mines by IBM through NMEDT fund” for approval of PSC with an estimated cost of **INR 426.68 lakh (including GST)** within time schedule of **8 months** along with following suggestions:

- a. The committee suggested to prepare a standard operating protocol for sample analysis through ICPMS in all three labs by taking guidance from experts.
- b. Gold and silver samples to be analyzed in a single lab and 10% of check samples analysis may be done through reputed labs.
- c. The committee suggested to include 10% of check sample for ICPMS analysis.

Discussion: Sh. N.K. Panda, Regional Director, AMD highlighted that out of 1,500 samples, IBM would analyze only 100 samples in its laboratory, while the remaining 1,400 samples would be outsourced to MECL and JNARDDC. He further pointed out that NMEDT had funded IBM to establish an ICP-MS laboratory only in the previous year. IBM clarified that its laboratory was presently engaged in multiple ongoing works, including beneficiation studies, and that a large number of in-house samples were already under analysis.

Decision of PSC: PSC approved the special studies project of IBM titled “Undertaking Geochemical Analysis of mine samples of Iron Ore and Limestone Mines by IBM through NMEDT fund” with a cost of Rs. 426.88 Lakh (inclusive of taxes) and a timeline of 8 months

Agenda 5.3: Approval of cost revision of ongoing exploration/ procurement projects with timeline extension (if any), recommended by TCC-1

TCC-1 has recommended additional cost/cost revision of following 2 mineral exploration projects for approval of Project Sanctioning Committee

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Approved cost (Rs.) (in lakh)	Revised cost (Rs.) (in lakh)	Change in Cost (Rs.) (in lakh)	Sanction Order and originally approved timeline details	Time line extension	Remarks	Decision of PSC
1	Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) for Limestone in Mangrur block, Adilabad District, Telangana [81 st TCC-1] [1 st PSC] [88 th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	69.74	73.06	(+) 3.32	S.O issued on 07.03.25 Originally approved SDC was 09.10.25	09.10.25 to 31.01.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional chemical analysis and core preservation. • Project delayed due to notification issue 	Approved
2	Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of Limestone in Ponar Block, Adilabad District, Telangana [81 st TCC-1] [1 st PSC] [88 th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	104.08	110.81	(+) 6.73	S.O issued on 07.03.25 Originally approved SDC was 09.10.25	09.10.25 to 31.01.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional chemical analysis and core preservation. • Project delayed due to notification issue 	Approved

Decision of PSC: PSC approved cost revision of 2 projects alongwith timeline extension, recommended by TCC-1.

Agenda 5.4: Approval of pre-closure of ongoing exploration projects alongwith cost revision (if any), recommended by TCC-1:

TCC-1 has recommended the pre-closure of 01 mineral exploration project for approval of Project Sanctioning Committee.

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Approved on	Duration (in months)	Approved cost (Rs. in lakh)	Revised cost (Rs. in lakh)	Cost change (Rs. in lakh)	Remarks	Decision of PSC
1	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Level) for Limestone in Jaharitola (3.34 sq. km) and Mundatola (4.34 sq.km) Blocks, Sundargarh District, Odisha [75 th TCC-1] [43 rd EC] [81 st TCC-1] [88 th TCC-1]	MECL	37 th EC (SO Issued on 23.10.2024)	12	285.75	21.06	(-) 264.69	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-promising value of CaO. • Analytical values of main constituents like MgO, SiO₂ and insolubles do not meet the stipulated specifications (threshold values) even for dolomite in Jaharitola and Mundatola blocks 	Approved

Decision of PSC: PSC approved pre-closure of 1 project alongwith cost revision, recommended by TCC-1.

Agenda 5.5: Approval of timeline extension of ongoing exploration/ procurement/ baseline data generation projects, recommended by TCC-1:

TCC-1 has recommended timeline extension of following 17 mineral exploration/procurement/baseline data generation projects, for approval of Project Sanctioning Committee.

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Scheduled date of completion	Required timeline (up to)	Sanction Order and originally approved timeline details	Remarks	Decision of PSC
1	Engaging a Technical Supervision and Quality Control (TS-QC) consultant for Monitoring of Quality Assurance/Quality control (QA/QC) of the Multi-sensor Aero-geophysical Surveys over Blocks- 15 under Phase-II of National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP) [88 th TCC-1]	GSI	18.02.26	31.05.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SO issued on 15.07.22 (for blocks 14 & 15) • SO was issued after cost revision on 12.12.23 (for block 15) • MoA signing date: 19.02.24 Original contract Expiry Date: 18.02.25 	For completion of remaining work. Compilation and Processing of 100% data has been completed	Approved
2	PIA for Multi-sensor aero-geophysical surveys over blocks 15 in adjoining Obvious Geological Potential (OGP) areas under National Airborne Geophysical Mapping Programme (NAGMP). [88 th TCC-1]	GSI	28.02.26	30.04.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SO issued on 08.09.21 (for blocks 13-22) • SO was issued after cost revision on 25.11.22 (for block 15) • MoA signing date: 17.02.23 Original contract Expiry Date: 28.02.25 	For completion of remaining work. Compilation and Processing of 100% data has been completed.	Approved
3	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE & RM (Sc, Nb) mineralisation in Samalpatti, Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu [88 th TCC-1]	KIOCL	31.12.25	28.02.26	<p>S.O issued on 13.12.24</p> <p>Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 12.10.25</p>	For completion of work and GR submission	Approved
4	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Nittadgi Block, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka [88 th TCC-1]	PRB Infraprojects Ltd.	09.02.26	31.03.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25	For obtaining forest clearance and	Approved

					Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.02.26	execution of work.	
5	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Glauconite and associated mineralization in Dhamni-Piparwasi Simliya area, Sheopur district, Madhya Pradesh [88th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	20.08.25	28.02.26	S.O issued on 21.08.24 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 20.08.25	For GR submission. Work delayed due to re-notification issue	Approved
6	Preliminary Exploration Survey (G3) of Iron Ore and associated minerals in Bamuri Block, Sidhi District, Madhya Pradesh [88th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	05.01.26	15.06.26	S.O issued on 06.01.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 05.01.26	For completion of work and GR submission. Work delayed due to re-notification issue	Approved
7	Preliminary exploration (G3) for Iron ore and associated minerals in Amhawa Block, Sidhi District, Madhya Pradesh [88th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	09.02.26	30.06.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.02.26	For completion of work and GR submission. Work delayed due to re-notification issue	Approved
8	Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of Limestone, Gadeghat -Khatera block, Yavatmal District, Maharashtra [88th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	09.12.25	28.02.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.12.25	For submission of GR	Approved

9	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for limestone in Chokkanathapuram Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu [88th TCC-1]	Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions	09.10.25	31.03.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.10.25	For completion of work and GR submission Work delayed due to re-notification issue	Approved ** No further extension to be given
10	Preliminary exploration (G3 stage) for limestone in Kulumur Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu [88th TCC-1]	Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions	09.10.25	31.03.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.10.25	For completion of work and GR submission	Approved ** No further extension to be given
11	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in and around Dumburuneli area, Rayagada District, Odisha [88th TCC-1]	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	09.12.25	31.03.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.12.25	For completion of work and GR submission	Approved
12	Preliminary exploration (G-3 stage) for limestone in Mukteswarapuram Block, Suryapet District, Telangana [89th TCC-1]	MECL	01.02.26	28.02.26	S.O issued on 02.07.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 01.02.26	For GR submission	Approved
13	Preliminary exploration (G-3 stage) for limestone in Pedaveedu East Block, Suryapet District, Telangana [89th TCC-1]	MECL	01.02.26	28.02.26	S.O issued on 02.07.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 01.02.26	For GR submission	Approved

14	Preliminary exploration (G-3 stage) for limestone in Pedaveedu West Block, Suryapet District, Telangana [89th TCC-1]	MECL	01.02.26	30.04.26	S.O issued on 02.07.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 01.02.26	For completion of work and GR submission	Approved
15	Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Dhunki-Chilai Block District: Yavatmal, Maharashtra [89th TCC-1]	MECL	31.01.26	28.02.26	S.O issued on 05.03.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 04.11.25	For GR submission	Approved
16	Preliminary Exploration (G3 stage) for aluminous laterite and associated critical minerals in Govindagude & Sudigudde block, Udupi District, Karnataka [89th TCC-1]	Critical Mineral Trackers	31.01.26	31.03.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.08.25	For obtaining forest clearance and completion of work	Approved
17	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Gold in Chinnikatti Block, Haveri District, Karnataka [89th TCC-1]	Mining Tech & Consultancy Services	09.02.26	09.08.26 09.05.26	S.O issued on 10.02.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 09.02.26	For obtaining forest clearance and completion of work	Approved till 09.05.2026

Decision of PSC: PSC approved timeline extension of 17 projects, recommended by TCC-1.

Technical-cum-Cost Committee-2 (TCC-2)

Agenda 5.6: Approval of new exploration project proposals recommended by the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-2 (TCC-2)

TCC-2 has recommended following 2 mineral exploration proposals with estimated cost of Rs. 21.76 crore for approval of Project Sanctioning Committee.

<i>Amount in Rs. Crore</i>								
Sl. No.	Project/Block Name	Area (in km ²)	Agency	Commodity	Stage	Duration (months)	Cost	Decision of PSC
1	Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Graphite in Ranibandh Area, Bankura, West Bengal [21 st TCC-2]	2.5	MMPL Pvt. Ltd.	Graphite	G3	12	2.73	Deferred. Project is deferred as the block is being considered for auction
2	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Potash in Choharianwali Area (48.0 sq. km), District-Fazilka, Punjab [21 st TCC-2]	48.0	MECL	Potash	G4	21	19.03	Approved
Total Projects			02	Total Cost (A)			21.76	

Decision of PSC: The PSC approved 01 mineral exploration project amounting to Rs. 19.03 Cr., as mentioned at Sl. No. 2. The project mentioned at Sl. No. 1 is deferred as the block is being considered for auction.

Agenda 5.7: Approval of cost revision of ongoing exploration/ procurement projects with timeline extension (if any), recommended by TCC-2

TCC-2 has recommended cost revision and timeline extension of following 3 mineral exploration project for approval of Project Sanctioning Committee.

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Approved cost (Rs.) (in lakh)	Revised cost (Rs.) (in lakh)	Change in Cost (Rs.) (in lakh)	Time line extension	Remarks	Decision of PSC
1	Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Copper, Molybdenum, Tungsten & associated minerals in Hanspur Block, District Jhansi,	MECL	161.97	159.90	(-) 2.07	From 19.12.25 to 30.06.26	Drilling to be outsourced. Timeline extension is recommended for completion of work and submission of GR.	Approved

	Uttar Pradesh [21 st TCC-2]							
2	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Magnetite and associated Vanadium mineralization in Khursipar Block, District: Gondia, Maharashtra [21 st TCC-2]	MECL	273.10	270.40	(-) 2.70	From 18.03.26 to 17.06.26	Drilling to be outsourced. Timeline extension is recommended for completion of work.	Approved
3	Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Limestone in Dhanokhar Nagod Limestone Block, Panna & Satna District, Madhya Pradesh. [21 st TCC-2]	MPSMCL	78.74	81.44	(+) 2.70	--	Additional quantum of DGPS survey for borehole point fixation	Approved

Decision of PSC: PSC approved cost revision of 3 projects alongwith timeline extension, if any, recommended by TCC-2.

Agenda 5.8: Preliminary exploration (G3) for PGE, Gold and Basemetal in Timkitola block, Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh by M/s Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.

The project was approved in 2nd PSC meeting with an approved cost of Rs. 2.13 crore with a timeline of 12 months, subject to re-check of drilling plan by the TCC.

TCC-2 at its 19th meeting, evaluated the drilling plan and recommended that drilling in 6 boreholes (3 x 90m Vertical + 3 x 150m inclined) with total drilling meterage of 720m will be decided after first review of detailed mapping and Geophysical survey work after 5 months. The review of the project will be done after 5 & 10 months. Accordingly, the timeline table of the project has been modified.

This is for the information of PSC.

Agenda 5.9: Approval of timeline extension of ongoing exploration/ procurement projects, recommended by TCC-2:

TCC-2 has recommended timeline extension of following 4 mineral exploration/procurement/baseline data generation projects, for approval of Project Sanctioning Committee.

S. No.	Block/Project	Agency	Scheduled date of completion	Required timeline (up to)	Sanction Order and originally approved timeline details	Remarks	Decision of PSC
1	Financial assistance from NMEDT funds to procure machinery/ laboratory equipment/ instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities. [16th TCC-2] [3rd PSC] [21st TCC-2]	DGM Jharkhand	31.08.25	(i) 31.03.26 (ii) 31.07.26 (Details in Annexure II)	S.O issued on 18.08.23 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 17.08.24	Tender bidding and procurement processes are still pending	Approved
2	Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Limestone in Bhatiya Area in the Village Bhatiya-Gokalpur, District-Devbhumi Dwarka, Gujarat [21st TCC-2]	PRB Infra Projects Private Limited	02.01.26	02.03.26	S.O issued on 03.03.25 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 02.11.25	For completion of project	Approved
3	Preliminary (G3) Exploration for Iron and Bauxite ore in Amoch Chapra Block, Jabalpur & Katni District, Madhya Pradesh [21st TCC-2]	MECL	31.12.25	31.03.26	S.O issued on 29.08.24 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 28.06.25	For completion of project and GR submission	Approved
4	Preliminary exploration (G-3) of Tungsten and Tin ore in Murara-Devendrapura Block, District-Niwari, Madhya Pradesh [21st TCC-2]	MECL	31.01.26	30.04.26 31.03.2026	S.O issued on 29.08.24 Original approved Scheduled Date of Completion was 28.06.25	For completion of project	Approved till 31.03.2026

Decision of PSC: PSC approved timeline extension of 4 projects, recommended by TCC-2.

Annexure I

Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Gold in Kanivihalli Block, Davangere District, Karnataka, Area 30 sq. km (for initial 2 phases; the area will be further reduced to potential zones for preliminary exploration), No. of BH:20, Total drilling: 2500m (For all 3 phases; 500 mscout drilling for 1st phase) Schedule timeline- 15 months; Review: After 4, 6 and 12 months (1st two phases 6 months)							
S. No.	Item of Work *	Unit *	Rates as per NMET SoC 2025-26		Estimated Cost of the Proposal		Remarks (The actual drilling meterage will be decided after 1st and 2nd phase of work)
			SoC-Item No. *	Rates as per SoC * (a)	Qty. (b)	Total Amount (Rs) (a*b)	
PHASE-1 (including updation of existing Geological map, Pitting, Trenching and Bedrock Sampling in grid pattern in identified mineralised zones)							
A	Geological Mapping Other Geological Work						
	Traverse Mapping (1:12,500 scale), Sampling, Pitting/Trenching						
i	Charges for Geologist per day (Field) for geological mapping	day	1.2.1 a (b)	14,500.00	60	8,70,000	including sampling
ii	Labours Charges; Base rate	day	5.8	541.00	120	64,920	
iii	Charges for Geologist per day (HQ)	day	1.2.1 a (a)	10,500.00	45	4,72,500	For entire project (including 3 phases)
	Trenching/Pitting						
v	Trenching	per cu.m	2.1.1	4,125.00	100	4,12,500	
vi	Bed rock sampling			-	100	-	Only quantification of samples to be collected

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	Sub Total- A					18,19,920	
B	LABORATORY STUDIES						
1	Chemical Analysis						
	Geochemical Sampling-Surface samples (Bedrock/Channel /Soil/Stream sediment)						
i	Au by Fire Assay	Nos	4.1.5a	3,500.00	200	7,00,000	100 Trench samples+ 100 BRS
iii	Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element by ICPMS	Nos	4.1.15	7,400.00	50	3,70,000	
iv	Determination of mercury in rock or soil samples (by Cold Vapour Technique)	Nos	-	-	-	-	This item has been removed in revised SoC
	Surface Check samples (10% External)						
i	Au by Fire Assay	Nos	4.1.5a	3,500.00	20	70,000	
	Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element by ICPMS	Nos	4.1.15	7,400.00	5	37,000	
vi	Sampler Man days		1.2.1b	7850	34	264938	
vii	Labour Man days		5.8	541	135	73035	
2	Physical & Petrological Studies					-	
i	Preparation of standard polish section	Nos	4.3.2	800	10	8,000	
ii	study of polished section (along with 5 nos. digital photo micrographs)	Nos	4.3.4	2,800	10	28,000	
iv	SEM Studies	per hour	4.4.2	3,500	10	35,000	
v	EPMA studies	per hour	4.4.1	10,500	10	1,05,000	
	Sub Total- B					16,90,973	
	Total Phase I					35,10,893	
	Review						
	PHASE-2 (GP survey in the zones identified in Phase 1 and Trenching)						
C	Ground Geophysical Survey						

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ii	Resistivity Profiling (Station interval 200m.)	line km	3.6a	58,880.00	20	11,77,600	200m station interval, 500 m line interval
	IP(Dipole Dipole) (10-20 km)	line km	3.4 a	69,950.00	2	1,39,900	
v	Geophysicist party days (HQ)	per day	3.18 a	10,500.00	20	2,10,000	
	Sub Total- C					15,27,500	
D	Trenching/Pitting						
	Trenching	per cu.m	2.1.1	4,125.00	150	6,18,750	Trench samples 100
	Charges for Geologist per day (Field) for geological mapping	day	1.2.1 a (b)	14,500.00	45	6,52,500	
	Labours Charges; Base rate	day	5.8	541.00	90	48,690	
	Sub Total- D					13,19,940	
E	Scout Drilling (In-house)						
i	Total Drilling 500 m	m	2.2.1.1e	12,650.00	500	63,25,000	No. of BHs
ii	Land / Crop Compensation (in case the BH falls in agricultural Land)	per BH	5.6	30000	5	1,50,000	As per actuals
iii	Concrete pillar construction (12"x12"x30")	per BH	2.2.7	2,000	5	10,000	As per actuals
iv	Other Miscellaneous Charges for drilling (Transportation of Drilling Rig, Accommodation for Drill Camp, Camp setting and winding, construction of Approach road and Drill core preservation	lumpsum	2.2.9 (2)	Miscellaneous Charges (Transportation of Drilling Rig, Accommodation for Drill Camp, Camp setting and winding, construction of Approach road and Drill core preservation	For Drilling cost more than 50 Lakhs and less than 1 Crore : 20% of the Drilling Cost with a maximum ceiling of	12,65,000	

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					₹ 15 lakh.		
	Sub Total E					77,50,000	
F	LABORATORY STUDIES						
1	Chemical Analysis						
	Geochemical Sampling-BH samples						
i	Au by Fire Assay	Nos	4.1.5a	3,500.00	250	8,75,000	150 Trench + 100 BH
ii	XRF / Whole Rock Analysis	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	25	1,05,000	Same samples
iii	Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element by ICPMS	Nos	4.1.15	7,400.00	25	1,85,000	
	Check samples (10% External)						
i	Au by Fire Assay	Nos	4.1.5a	3,500.00	25	87,500	
ii	XRF / Whole Rock Analysis	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	3	10,500	
	Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element by ICPMS	Nos	4.1.15	7,400.00	3	18,500	
vi	Sampler Man days		1.2.1b	7850	41	3,21,359	
vii	Labour Man days		5.8	541	164	88,589	
2	Physical & Petrological Studies					-	
i	Preparation of standard polish section	Nos	4.3.1	800	10	8,000	

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ii	study of polished section along with digital photographs	Nos	4.3.4	2,800	10	28,000	
iv	SEM Studies	per hour	4.4.2	3,500	10	35,000	
v	EPMA studies	per hour	4.4.1	10,500	10	1,05,000	
	Sub Total F					18,67,448	
Review							
Total Phase II						1,24,64,888	
Total Phase I + II						1,59,75,781	
F	Total A to E					1,59,75,781	
G	Preparation of Exploration Proposal (5 Hard copies with a soft copy)	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.1	2% of approved project cost or 5 lakh whichever is lower		3,19,516	EA will be reimbursed after submission of the Hard Copies and the soft copy of the final proposal along with Maps and Plan as suggested by the TCC-NMET in its meeting while clearing the proposal.
H	Geological Report Preparation	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.2 (ii)	Total cost exceeding ₹50 lakh but less than 150 lakh: ₹2.5 lakh			Reimbursement will be made after submission of the final Geological Report in Hard Copies (5 Nos) and the soft copy to NMET.
I	Peer review Charges		As per EC decision				
J	Total Estimated Cost without GST					1,62,95,296	
K	Provision for GST (18%)					29,33,153	GST will be reimburse as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate

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L	Total Estimated Cost with GST				1,92,28,450	
M				Rs. In Lakhs	192.28	
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.					
*	SoC Item No, Unit and Rate for each item of work must be as mentioned in the SoC.					

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Annexure II

Details of item to be procured by DGM Jharkhand along with timeline extension

Sl. No.	Name of Item	Qty.	Estimated Cost per unit (Rs.)	Total Estimated cost (Rs)	Procurement Status	TLE recommended upto
1	Digital Camera	10	90000	900000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
2	Brunton Compass	20	10000	200000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
3	Geological Hammer	20	10000	200000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
4	Hand-held GPS	20	95000	1900000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
5	Hydraulic Core Splitter	1	200000	200000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
6	Vibratory Cup Mill with accessories	1	600000	600000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
7	ICP- MS (Ultra-Pure Water System)	1	20000000	20000000	Not Procured	31.07.2026
8	XRF	1	16000000	16000000	Not Procured	31.07.2026
9	Fusion Bead Machine	1	2000000	2000000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
10	Press Palette machine	1	390000	390000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
11	Grinding and Polishing Machine and mounting unit	1	7000000	7000000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
12	Transmitted and Reflected light, research Microscope with software attached camera	1	1200000	1200000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
13	Proximate Analyzer (TGA)	1	2200000	2200000	Not Procured	31.03.2026
			Total	5,27,90,000		

Annexure III

List of Participants

Sl. No	Name of the person	Designation	Mode
1	Shri Pankaj Garg	DG, NMEDT and Chairman	Physical
2	Shri N. K. Panda	Regional Director (SR), AMD	Online
3	Sh. Birendra Thakur	Director (Tech.), MoC	Online
4	Shri Anshoo Pandey	Director, NCMM	Physical
5	Sh. Bhupinder Kumar	Director, MoPNG	Online
6	Smt. Geetika Sharma	Director – Projects, NMEDT & Member Secretary	Physical
7	Shri Alok Kumar	Dy. Secretary, IFD, Mines	Physical
8	Shri Abhay Agrawal	Controller of Mines, IBM	Online
9	Shri Jayanta Kumar Naik	Director, NM-II, GSI, Nagpur	Online
10	Shri Ravi Dutt	Cost Accounts Officer	Physical
11	Shri Gopal Ram	Additional Director Geology (HQ), DMG, Rajasthan	Online
12	Shri Vinod Bagdey	Addl. Director, MRD, M.P., Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	Online
13	Shri S. P. Kadoo	Deputy Director, DGM Maharashtra Govt. of Maharashtra	Online
14	Ms. Deepa	Director, (Geology and Mining) Govt. of Tamil Nadu	Online
15	Shri T K Biswal	Technical Expert	Online
16	Dr. P Krishnamurthy	Technical Expert	Online
17	Shri Pankaj Satija	Technical Expert	Online
Invitee			
18	Dr. S Ravi	Dy. DG and Chairman, TCC-1	Online
19	Shri Pradeep Singh	Dy. DG and Chairman, TCC-2	Online
20	Shri S Dhanendran	Director and Member Secretary, TCC-1	Online
21	Shri Sanjay Singh	Director and Member Secretary, TCC-2	Online

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration & Development Trust
Minutes for 5th Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) meeting, NMEDT
held on 09.02.2026

F.No.117/1/2025/NMET

New Delhi, _ March 2026

Corrigendum

The Minutes of the 5th meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) held under Chairmanship of Shri Pankaj Garg, Director General, NMEDT on 09.02.2026, were circulated on 18.02.2026.

2. With reference to Para 6 (Decision of PSC) of Agenda 5.2: Undertaking Geochemical Analysis of mine samples of Iron Ore and Limestone Mines by IBM through NMEDT fund (Agency: IBM), the approved cost of ₹ 426.88 Lakh (inclusive of taxes) may be read as ₹ 426.68 Lakh (inclusive of taxes).

The other text of the minutes will remain unchanged.

[Geetika Sharma]
Director (Projects), NMEDT

To all attendees of PSC Meeting

1. Shri Anshoo Pandey, Director, NCMM, Ministry of Mines, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi ,
2. Shri Birendra Thakur, Director (Tech.), Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Shri N K Panda, Regional Director, Southern Region, Atomic Mineral Exploration and Research Directorate, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru.
4. Shri Jayanta Kumar Naik, Director, NM-II, Geological Survey of India, Nagpur.
5. Shri Bhupinder Kumar, Director, Ministry ,of Petroleum & Natural Gas.
6. Shri Abhay Agrawal, Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur.
7. Shri Alok Kumar, Dy. Secretary, IFD, Mines, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi.
8. Shri Ravi Dutt, Cost Accounts Officer, NMEDT, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
9. Shri Gopal Ram, Additional Director Geology (HO), DMG, Rajasthan.
10. Shri Vinod Bagdey, Additional Director, Mineral Resource Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.

11. Shri S. P. Kadoo, Deputy Director, DGM Maharashtra, Govt. of Maharashtra.
12. Ms. Deepa, Deputy Director, (Geology and Mining) Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
13. Shri Bhagwati Prasad Raturi, Ex -GM (Exploration), MECL, Lane NO-7, New Garhwal Colony Near Malsi Puliya, Balawala, Dehradun-248019, Uttarakhand
14. Shri Pankaj Satija, NTH Complex, 4th Floor, A-2 Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi.
15. Shri Hanuma Prasad Modali, Deccan Gold Mines Limited, No 77, 16th Cross, Sector IV, HSR Layout, Bangalore 560102.
16. Dr. P Krishnamurthy (Technical Expert, PSC), Flat No. 103, A Block, IGV Apts., Ideal Homes Township, RR Nagar, Bengaluru.
17. Prof. T. K. Biswal, B- 4, 101, Bhubaneswar Campus, Argul, Jatni, Khordha, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, 752050.

Copy for kind information to:

1. PSO to Secretary, Mines/Chairman EC, NMEDT, Ministry of Mines, GPOA-3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi.
2. PPS to Director General, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust, Ministry of Mines, 4 Sansad Marg, PTI Building, KABIL, New Delhi.
3. PPS to JS&FA, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.