

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust
Minutes of the 86th Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1) Meeting held on
11th December, 2025 through video conferencing

The 86th Meeting of the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-I (TCC-1) of the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) was held via video conferencing under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General (DDG), Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI) and Chairman, TCC-1, NMEDT, on 11th December, 2025

Members of TCC-1, NMEDT and representatives from MECL, Mining Associates Pvt. Ltd., DGM, Kerala, Geomarine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., DMG, Karnataka and Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd. have attended the meeting through their respective VC modes.

The list of participants is enclosed in Annexure-3

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

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

Agenda 86.1: Technical evaluation of new project proposals

Agenda 86.1.1. General Exploration (G2) in Bhalukona Block (8.62 Sq. Km) for Glauconitic Sandstone and Shales, District- Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The proposed block falls in Survey of India TS No. 64K/16 and exposes rocks of Singhora Group of Chhattisgarh Supergroup.
- b. The proposed block is one of the seven annulled critical and strategic mineral blocks, that had been handed over to NMEDT by Ministry of Mines for further higher level of exploration.
- c. MECL informed that the G3 exploration by GSI (2021-22) has confirmed glauconite mineralization with 4–7.5% K₂O across 6 km strike length and an inferred resource of 63.79 Mt ($\geq 4\%$ K₂O), requiring further confirmation for upgradation to 332 categories.
- d. MECL apprised the committee that the confirmed presence of glauconitic mineralization, consistent grade, favourable infrastructure, and its strategic importance in reducing potash import dependency, the Bhalukona Block warrants detailed exploration at the G2 stage. The proposed G2-level work also aims to upgrade the deposit from UNFC Category 333 to 332 through systematic drilling, detailed sampling, petrographic and chemical characterization, and beneficiation evaluation.
- e. The committee discussed the proposal and found that along with Sandstone and shales, bands of limestone are also present in the proposed block.
- f. The committee recommended the proposal and suggested the agency to estimate the resources for limestone bands too, along with Glauconitic sandstone and shale.

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Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	The proposed blocks completely overlaps with previous G3 block of GSI
2.	MECL	NA
3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Not available at the time of meeting. The project is upgradation of annulled blocks.
5.	NMEDT	No overlap with ongoing or previous work.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the proposal entitled “General Exploration (G2) for Glauconitic Sandstone and Shale in Bhalukona Block [Block area- 8.62 sq. km], District: Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh” for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of ₹255.83 lakhs (including GST) within time schedule of 12 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 1A & 1B. The item will be reviewed after 6th and 9th months.

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Annexure 1A

General Exploration (G2) for Glauconitic Sandstone and Shale in Bhalukona Block [Block area- 8.62 sq. km], District: Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh. [Nos. of Borehole- 19; Total Drilling: 1800m; Borehole depth range: 60 to 90 m; Schedule timeline- 12 months, Review after: 6 & 9 months]

S. No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMEDT Revised SoC 2025-26		Estimated Cost of the Proposal		Remarks
			SoC-Item - SI No.	Rates as per SoC	Qty.	Amount (Rs)	
A	GEOLOGICAL MAPPING						
i	Detailed Mapping (1:2000)	per sq km	1.1	18,300	-	-	Geological map updation on 1:2000 scale
ii	Charges for one Geologist- Field	per day	1.2.1a (b)	14,500	20	2,90,000	Updation of existing 1:5000 scale map to 1:2000 scale
iii	2 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	per day	5.8	541	40	21,640	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher. EPF, ESIC and Bonus will be extra as mandatory by GoI on its gazette notification 21.01.2025
B	OTHER GEOLOGICAL WORK/ ACTIVITIES						
i	Charges for one Geologist- Field	per day	1.2.1a (b)	14,500	130	18,85,000	Other work including drilling, sampling, core logging etc.
ii	Charges for one Geologist - HQ	per day	1.2.1a (a)	10,500	30	3,15,000	
iii	2 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	per day	5.8	541	260	1,40,660	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher. EPF, ESIC and Bonus will be extra as mandatory by GoI on its gazette notification 21.01.2025

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iv	Sampling -1 Samplers Labour charge not included	per day	1.2.1b	7,850	112	8,79,200	
v	4 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	per day	5.8	541	448	2,42,368	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher. EPF, ESIC and Bonus will be extra as mandatory by GoI on its gazette notification 21.01.2025
C	SURVEY WORK						
i	Demarcation of lease boundary, Fixation of borehole and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level (RL) of the boreholes by DGPS	Per Point of observation	1.3.2	24,000	24	5,76,000	Proposed Boreholes: 19, Block Boundary Points: 05
					Sub Total- A TO C	43,49,868	
D	EXPLORATORY DRILLING (OUTSOURCING)						
i	Drilling upto 400 m in HQ Size	m	2.2.1.1c	5,500	1,800	99,00,000	19 Boreholes
ii	Technical Supervision cost	One time	6	10% of the sum of all the outsourced work components with a maximum ceiling of 20 lakh.		9,90,000	Core preservation of 900 m to be done. 1 complete BH and mineralised zone from other BH
ii	Land/Crop Compensation	Per Borehole	5.6	30000	19	570000	As per actuals with a maximum of 30000 per BH
iii	Concrete Pillar Construction	Per Borehole	2.2.7	2000	24	48000	BH plus Cardinal points
iv	Borehole Plugging	Lumpsum per borehole	2.2.8	10000	19	190000	
					Sub Total- D	1,16,98,000	

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E	LABORATORY STUDIES						
1	Chemical Analysis						
i	Primary Sample - Major Oxides viz. (SiO ₂ , Al ₂ O ₃ , Fe ₂ O ₃ , K ₂ O, MgO, CaO, Na ₂ O, TiO ₂ , MnO, P ₂ O ₅ & LOI)	Per Sample	4.1.17a	4,200	800	33,60,000	800 core samples
ii	External (10%) Check samples from NABL Lab for Major Oxides viz. (SiO ₂ , Al ₂ O ₃ , Fe ₂ O ₃ , K ₂ O, MgO, CaO, Na ₂ O, TiO ₂ , MnO, P ₂ O ₅ & LOI)	Per Sample	4.1.17a	4,200	80	3,36,000	
iii	Analysis for REE & 9 trace element by ICPMS method	Per Sample	4.1.15	7,400	20	1,48,000	
2	Physical & Petrological Studies						
i	XRD analysis for identification of mineral phase	Per Sample	4.5.2	4,000	10	40,000	
ii	Beneficiation Studies	Per Sample	4.7.2 Actual expenses as per IBM rate	4,36,590	1	4,36,590	Actual expenses. Beneficiation study for G2 stage mineral exploration project (Complete laboratory scale ore dressing investigation involving studies for recovery of mineral by various physical beneficiation methods) Rate of IBM (without tax) is taken as tax on overall cost is levied
iii	Preparation of thin section	Per Sample	4.3.1	500	20	10,000	
iv	Complete petrographic study report (included 5 Digital Photography)	Per Sample	4.3.4	2,800	20	56,000	
v	Modal Analysis of thin section	Per Sample	4.3.7	4,590	10	45,900	
vi	Density studies	Per Sample	4.8.3	2,500	4	10,000	
					Sub Total- E	44,42,490	
F					Total A to E	2,04,90,358	

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G	Geological Report Preparation		5.2.iii	Total cost of the project exceeding 150 lakh, 7.5 lakhs		7,50,000	
H	Peer review Charges		As per EC decision			30,000	
I	Preparation of Exploration Proposal (5 Hard copies with a soft copy)	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.1	2% of the Cost or Rs. 5 Lakhs whichever is lower		4,09,807	EA has to submit the Hard Copies and the soft copy of the final proposal along with Maps and Plan as suggested by the TCC-NMEDT in its meeting while clearing the proposal.
J	Total Estimated Cost without GST					2,16,80,165	
K	Provision for GST (18% of I)					39,02,430	GST will be reimburse as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate
L	Total Estimated Cost with GST					2,55,82,595	
Note:					or Say Rs. In Lakhs	255.83	
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 the Paragraph 6 of NMEDT SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA/NPEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.						
4	Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.						
5	Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.						
6	All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency						

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Annexure 1B

General Exploration (G2) for Glauconitic Sandstone and Shale in Bhalukona Block [Block area- 8.62 sq. km], District: Mahasamund, Chhattisgarh
[Schedule timeline- 12 months]

Sl.	Particulars	Months	1	2	3	4	5	6	REVIEW	7	8	9	REVIEW	10	11	12
1	Camp Setting/ mobilization	Months														
2	Geologist days (Mapping, Core Logging, Sampling)	days														
3	Survey Days	days														
4	Drilling	m														
5	Sampling days	days														
6	Camp winding	Months														
7	Laboratory Studies	days														
8	Beneficiation Studies															
9	Geologist days, HQ	days														
10	Report Writing with Peer Review	days														


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Agenda 86.2 Project Evaluation for In-Principle Approval

Agenda 86.2.1. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Gold at Hansadungri Block, Bankura District, West Bengal.

[Implementing Agency: M/s. Mining Associates Private Limited.]

- a. The proposed block falls in Survey of India TS No. 73J/09. The proposed block is situated in the north-eastern extremity of the North Singhbhum Mobile Belt (NSMB) and forms a part of the volcano-sedimentary sequence of the Singhbhum Group
- b. The proposed Hansadungri Block, has more than 80% overlap with the G3 Block of GSI mapped for same commodity.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	The proposed block has more than 80% overlap with the recently mapped G3 Block for same commodity.
2.	MECL	No overlapping
3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	There are no existing Composite License or Mining Lease for either Major or Minor minerals in the proposed block. GSI, ER is performing G-3 level exploratory work on Gold at Hansadungri Block, North of Rudra Gold Block, as per request of State Govt.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee did not recommend the proposal.

Agenda 86.2.2. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Gold at Rajsol Block, Bankura District, West Bengal.

[Implementing Agency: M/s. Mining Associates Private Limited.]

- a. The proposed block falls in Survey of India TS No. 73J/09 and forms part of the northeastern sector of the North Singhbhum Mobile Belt (NSMB). The area is underlain by volcano-sedimentary sequences of the Singhbhum Group, comprising metabasalt /amphibolite, felsic tuff, mica schist, quartzite, and calc-silicate rocks.
- b. GSI in their comments stated that the proposed Rajsol Block is having 48% overlap with G4 block of FS 2016-17 for same commodity. GSI further informed that the stated G4 block (FS 2016-17) has already been handed over to DMM, West Bengal during 2021 as Geological Memorandum.
- c. However, DMM West Bengal in their comments have stated that there is no existing CL or ML for major or minor minerals.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	The proposed block has 48% overlap with G4 block of same commodity. The proposed block is also showing 82% overlap with GSI FS 2006-08 item titled "Prospecting for Gold In Singhbhum Group at Rudra area in the North-eastern most extremity of North Singhbhum Mobile Belt, Bankura District, West Bengal (PI)"
2.	MECL	The proposed block does not overlap with any blocks currently being explored or operated by MECL.

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3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	There are no existing Composite License or Mining Lease for either Major or Minor minerals in the proposed block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee suggested to seek information from DMM, West Bengal regarding the status of Geological Memorandum and deferred the proposal.

Agenda 86.2.3. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Manganese at Barsidlahalli Block, Tumkur District, Karnataka.

[Implementing Agency: M/s. Mining Associates Private Limited.]

- a. The agency did not present the material.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The agency did not present the material.

Agenda 86.3: Re-evaluation of Procurement Proposal

Agenda 86.3.1. Financial Assistance from NMEDT funds to procure Machinery, Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities in the state of Kerala.

[Implementing Agency: DGM Kerala]

- a. DGM, Kerala sought financial assistance for the procurement of Polarizing Microscope with Camera and Software, Petrographic Thin Section Unit, Crawler-Mounted Drill Rig with Accessories, WD XRF with Accessories, Vibratory Disc Mill with Grinding Sets, and Certified Reference Materials to strengthen its laboratory facilities and enhance mineral exploration activities in the state.
- b. The proposal was discussed in 84th meeting of TCC-I and was recommended for approval of PSC subject to submission of justifications in the following aspects.
 - i. Technical specification of each item.
 - ii. Current availability of the same instrument in the department.
 - iii. Average monthly output of the instruments i.e thin section unit and XRF labs
 - iv. Trained manpower availability to handle and maintain the instrument and lab equipment.
 - v. Availability of spares and consumables
 - vi. Projected target set for at least five years
 - vii. Whether the instrument is envisaged to procure only for in-house usage or supporting NPEAs who carry out exploration in the state.
- c. However, considering the present strength and the number of projects undertaken by the DGM, there was need to re-evaluate the recommendation made during 84th TCC-I meeting.
- d. Hence the committee re-evaluated the proposal and recommended the following instruments/ machinery to DGM, Kerala.

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Table 1: Detail of equipment/instruments for procurement by DGM, Kerala

Sl. No.	Item	Quantity	Estimated Cost per unit (Rs. In Lakh)	Total Estimated Cost (Rs. In Lakh) (Excluding Taxes)
1.	Crawler Mounted Drill Rig With Associated Accessories			
1A	Hydrostatic Crawler Mounted Drill Rig (600m capacity)	1	91	91
1B	Drill rods, Casing and Core Barrel, Bits and accessories For 1 drill unit (600 m capacity)	-	43	43
1C	Hydrostatic Crawler Mounted Drill Rig (300m capacity)	1	62	62
1D	Drill rods, Casing and Core Barrel, Bits and accessories For 1 drill unit (300 m capacity)	-	25	25
Sub total 1: (1A+1B+1C+1D)				221
2.	Polarizing Microscope with Camera and Software	1	20	20
3.	Petrographic Thin Section Unit	1	50	50
4.	WD XRF	1	220	220
5.	Pellet Press	-	3.9	3.9
6.	Certified Reference Material (CRM)	-	-	25
	Total (1+2+3+4+5+6)			539.9

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the proposal entitled “Procurement of Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities by DGM Kerala” for the approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 539.9 lakhs (excluding GST) as per Table 1. The timeline to complete procurement is 12 months.

Agenda 86.4: Review of Ongoing Projects/ Completed Project & Timeline Extension

Agenda 86.4.1. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Graphite in Chormunda Block (3.75 sq.km.), District- Balangir and Nuapara, Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- MECL informed that the project was approved in the 36th EC Meeting held on 29th July, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 29th August, 2024 with timeline of 12 months (up to 28.08.2025) and approved cost was INR 2,59,52,279/-.
- The proposed blocks are one of the 10A 2(b) cases selected for further exploration by the State Govt. and allotted to MECL for further exploration.

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- c. The committee was informed that the project could not be initiated due to strong local agitation. Several meetings were held with local authorities, but yielded no resolution. The matter was also raised in various meetings with the State Government; however, the anticipated support could not be materialized.
- d. The matter was discussed in the 80th TCC-I meeting, where in MECL sought an approval for surrender of project and DMG Odisha also apprised the committee that the area is highly sensitive.
- e. During 80th TCC-I meeting, the committee advised the agency to submit all the correspondences and minutes of different meetings held with concerned authorities. Subsequently, the agency had submitted the correspondences for the same.
- f. In view of strong local opposition and based on inputs from DMG, Odisha, the Committee suggested MECL to surrender the project. However, the Committee expressed its displeasure over the non-execution of the project and advised all exploration agencies to submit an undertaking to TCC/NMEDT prior to project execution to ensure timely completion and suitable outcomes.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended surrender of the project. The committee also advised all the exploration agencies to submit an undertaking to TCC/NMEDT before executing the project for timely completion of the project with an outcome.

Agenda 86.4.2. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Graphite in Temrimal Block (4.0 sq.km.), District- Balangir and Bargarh, Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 36th EC Meeting held on 29th July, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 29th August, 2024 with timeline of 12 months (up to 28.08.2025) and approved cost was INR 2,73,71,348/-.
- b. The proposed blocks are one of the 10A 2(b) cases selected for further exploration by the State Govt. and allotted to MECL for further exploration.
- c. The committee was informed that the project could not be initiated due to strong local opposition. Several meetings were held with local authorities but yielded no resolution. The matter was also raised in various meetings with the State Government; however, the anticipated support could not be materialized.
- d. The matter was discussed in the 80th TCC-I meeting, where in MECL sought an approval for surrender of project and DMG Odisha also apprised the committee that the area is highly sensitive.
- e. During 80th TCC-I meeting, the committee advised the agency to submit all the correspondences and minutes of different meetings held with concerned authorities. Subsequently, the agency had submitted the correspondences for the same.
- f. In view of strong local opposition and based on inputs from DMG, Odisha, the Committee suggested MECL to surrender the project. However, the Committee expressed its displeasure over the non-execution of the project and advised all exploration agencies to submit an undertaking to TCC/NMEDT prior to project execution to ensure timely completion and suitable outcomes.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended surrender of the project. The committee also advised all the exploration agencies to submit an undertaking to TCC/NMEDT before executing the project for timely completion of the project with an outcome.

Agenda 86.4.3. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Glauconite, Phosphorite & REE in Ambara-Maru Block, District Kachchh, Gujarat

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 24th February, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 23.12.2025) and approved cost was INR 2,29,80,792/-.
- b. The project was reviewed in the 13th TCC-II meeting, where in MECL had requested for carrying out the scout borehole drilling at 1600x1600 grid spacing with 30 m depth each.
- c. MECL informed the committee that the project was delayed due to Operation Sindoor, monsoon and ongoing crop season. The agency also apprised that initially in house drilling was approved.
- d. The agency requested for timeline extension due to delay in the execution of the project and outsourcing of drilling component.
- e. The committee reviewed the progress of work and agreed for extension of timeline upto 31.03.2026. However, the committee disapproved the outsourcing of drilling component and suggested the agency to proceed with the originally approved in-house drilling.
- f. The committee advised MECL to submit in writing to NMEDT Secretariat for their manpower, logistics and number of ongoing projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 31st March, 2026 for completion of work and submission of GR for approval of PSC of NMEDT. The committee stated that no further extension would be granted and suggested the agency to proceed with the initially approved in-house drilling.

Agenda 86.4.4. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Glauconite in Ambara West Block, Kachchh District, Gujarat.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was recommended in 38th EC meeting held on 29th November 2024. The sanction order was issued on 13th December, 2024 with timeline of 12 months (i.e. upto 12.12.2025) with approved cost was Rs. 1,07,77,778/-.
- b. The project was reviewed in the 13th TCC-II meeting, where in MECL requested for carrying out the scout borehole drilling at 1600x1600 grid spacing.
- c. The agency requested for timeline extension upto 31st March, 2026 and outsourcing of drilling component due to delay in the execution of the project due to ongoing crop season, Operation Sindoor and monsoon.
- d. The committee reviewed the progress of work and agreed for extension of timeline upto 31.03.2026. However, the committee disapproved the outsourcing of drilling component and suggested the agency to proceed with the originally approved in-house drilling.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 31st March, 2026 for completion of work and submission of GR for approval of PSC of NMEDT. The committee stated that no further extension would be granted and suggested the agency to proceed with the initially approved in-house drilling.

Agenda 86.4.5. Preliminary exploration for Aluminous Laterite and Associated Critical Elements (V, Ga, & REE) in Mundalli Block, Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka.

[Implementing Agency: Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 38th EC Meeting held on 29th November, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 30th December, 2024 with timeline of 10 months (up to 29.10.2025) and approved cost was INR 90,92,156/-.
- b. The agency was accorded timeline extension in 82nd TCC- I meeting upto 29.11.2025 but the decision was kept on hold.
- c. The project was discussed in 84th TCC-I meeting, the agency sought approval for the lower core recovery observed in the block (approximately 70%). Upon review, it was noted that the rock type in the area is inherently unsuitable for achieving high core recovery, and RC drilling was not adopted as it was not approved by NMEDT.
- d. The agency also apprised the committee that, since the lower core recovery in the ore zones has a significant impact on final resource estimation, the agency reported that the resource estimate has been reduced by up to 35% for this reason.
- e. The agency informed that all project activities have been completed, and the final report has also been uploaded on the NGDR portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee accepted the Geological Report and the resource estimation at 70% core recovery and recommended timeline extension upto 29.11.2025 for approval of PSC of NMEDT.

Agenda 86.4.6. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Gold & assoc. minerals in Sirigeri Block (2 sq.km.), Ballari district, Karnataka.

[Implementing Agency: DMG, Karnataka]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 32nd EC Meeting held on 6th December, 2023. The Sanction Order was issued on 15th December, 2023 with timeline of 12 months (up to 14.12.2024) and approved cost was INR 3,45,18,638/-.
- b. The timeline was extended upto 14. 6. 2025 and 14.12. 2025 in 39th and 43rd EC meeting respectively.
- c. The agency informed the committee, all the components of the NQT has been achieved except analysis of external check samples.
- d. The committee suggested to analyse the external check samples from Hutt Gold Mines Company Limited (HGML) by fire assay method and submit the final GR by 28.02.2026.
- e. The committee was informed that one ICPMS has been procured by DMG, Karnataka funded by NMEDT. The committee advised DMG, Karnataka to submit a status note regarding optimum utilization of the NMEDT funded instruments.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 28.02.2026 for approval of NMEDT for GR submission.

Agenda 86.4.7. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Sawalhira (East) Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra

[Implementing Agency: Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd]

- a. GemcoKati Exploration Private Limited informed that the project was approved in the 35th EC Meeting held on 16th May, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th June, 2024 with timeline of 10 months (up to 09.04.2025) and approved cost was INR 86,70,545/-. Timeline extension upto 30.06.2025 was approved in 75th TCC-I meeting.
- b. During 79th meeting of TCC-I, the committee recommended closure of item with extension of timeline upto 31.08.2025 for GR submission for approval of EC. The cost of project was revised from Rs. 86.71 lakh to Rs. 57.22 lakh with a change in amount of (-) Rs 29.49 lakhs (~34.00 % de-escalation).
- c. PSC of NMEDT in its 1st meeting held on 9th October, 2025 deferred the pre-closure of project and suggested the agency to justify the expenditure incurred in project with respect to quantum of work completed.
- d. The agency apprised the committee, that 2 out of 5 assigned bore holes were drilled. Though the surface sample results were encouraging, the analytical results from the completed borehole had only yielded CaO % from 14 to 41%, while MgO varied from 1.3 to 4.3%. The yielded values are not promising to carry out further exploration.
- e. Forest Clearance for remaining boreholes could not be obtained. Hence, the project was recommended for pre-closure.
- f. The committee discussed the project again and opined that the expenditure incurred in project with respect to quantum of work completed is justified and the project may be given pre-closure.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended closure of item titled “Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Sawalhira (East) Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra” to PSC for approval. The committee accepted the justification for the expenditure incurred in project with respect to quantum of work completed.

The revised cost of project from Rs. 86.71 lakh to Rs. 57.22 lakh with a change in amount of (-) Rs 29.49 lakhs (~34.00 % de-escalation) as recommended during 79th TCC-I meeting may be approved by PSC. The cost was revised as per Annexure 2.

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Annexure 2

Revised Cost expenditure for Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Sawalhira East Block(G3), Chandrapur, District: Maharashtra									
S. No.	Item of Work *	Unit *	Rates as per NMET SoC 2020-21		Approved Cost of the Proposal		Revised cost of		Remarks
			SoC-Item No. *	Rates as per NMET SoC 2020-21	Qty. (b)	Total Amount (Rs) (a*b)	Qty.	Total Amount (Rs)	
A	Geological Mapping Other Geological Work & Surveying								
	Geological mapping, (1:4,000 scale) & Trenching , drilling work								
i	a. Charges for Geologist per day (Field) for geological mapping & trenching work, drilling work	day	1.3	11000	120	1320000	100	1100000	
ii	b. Labours Charges; Base rate	day	5.7	504	240	120960	200	108200	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher.
	c. Charges for Geologist per day (HQ)	day	1.3	9000	50	450000	50	450000	
	d. Charges for one Sampler per day (1 Party)	one sampler per day	1.5.2	5100	32	163200	32	163200	
	e. Labours (4 Nos)	day	5.7	504	128	64512	128	69248	
	Sub Total- A					21,18,672		18,90,648	
B	Ground Geophysical Survey								

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1	IP. Induced Polarization (I.P) cum Resistivity S.P and Magnetic (30 Lkm)	8-10 Line Km						
3	Geophysicist party days (Field)	per day						
4	c. Labours Charges	day						
5	Geophysicist party days (HQ)	per day						
Sub Total- B						-		
C	Survey work							
a	DGPS Survey for BH fixation & RL determination	Per Point of observation	1.6.2	19,200	11	211200	8	1,53,600
b	Charges of Surveyor (1 party) for Geophysical survey layout work & Block boundary demarcation	one surveyor per day	1.6.1a	8,300	30	249000	30	249000
c	Labours Charges for survey work;	day	5.7	504	120	60480	120	64920
Sub-Total C						5,20,680		4,67,520
D	Trenching/Pitting							
a)	Excavation of Pit	per cu.m	2.1.1	3,800		0	6	22,800
Sub-Total D								22,800
E	DRILLING (after review)							
1	Drilling up to 300m (Hard Rock)	m	2.2.1.1b	6,775	300	2032500	120	8,13,000
2	Borehole deviation Survey by Multishot Camera	m						
3	Land / Crop Compansation (in case the BH falls in agricultural Land)	per BH	5.6	20,000	-	0		

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4	Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30")	per borehole	2.2.7a	2,000	5	10000	2	4,000	3 BH dropped
5	Borehole plugging by cement	per borehole	2.2.7b	150	-	0			
6	Transportation of Drill Rig & Truck associated per drill (2 rigs)	Km	2.2.8	36	400	14400	400	14400	To and Fro
7	Monthly Accomodation Charges for drilling Camp (up to 2 Rigs)	month	2.2.9	50,000	2	1,00,000	2	1,00,000	
8	Drilling Camp Setting Cost	Nos	2.2.9a	2,50,000	1	2,50,000	1	2,50,000	
9	Drilling Camp Winding up Cost	Nos	2.2.9b	2,50,000	1	2,50,000	1	2,50,000	
10	Road Making (Flat Terrain)	Km	2.2.10a	22,020	2	44,040	2	44,040	
11	Drill Core Preservation	per m	5.3	1,590	250	3,97,500	-	-	
	Sub Total E					30,98,440		14,75,440	
F	Borehole Geophysical Logging	5 Bhs of 60m each							
G	LABORATORY STUDIES								
1	Chemical Analysis								
i)	Geochemical Sampling-Surface samples (Bedrock/Channel /Soil/Stream sediment)								
	a. Au by Fire Assay	Nos							
	b. For Ag, Ni, Co, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn, V, Ti by AAS Method	Nos							
	c. For PGE by Fire Assay	Nos							
ii)	Surface Check samples (10% External)								
	a. Au by Fire Assay	Nos							

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	b. For Ag, Ni, Co, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn, V, Ti by AAS Method	Nos						
	c. For PGE	Nos						
iii)	Trench & Check Samples from Trench							
	Trench samples							
	a. Au by Fire Assay	Nos						
	b. For Ag, Ni, Co, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn, V, Ti by AAS Method	Nos						
	c. For PGE	Nos						
iv)	Trench Check samples (10% External)							
	a. Au by Fire Assay	Nos						
	b. For Ag, Ni, Co, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn, V, Ti by AAS Method	Nos						
	c. For PGE	Nos						
v)	BH Core samples							
	a. Au by Fire Assay	Nos						
	b. For Ag, Ni, Co, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn, V, Ti by ICPMS-34 elements	Nos						
	c. For PGE	Nos						
vi)	BH Core samples (10% External)							
	a. Au by Fire Assay	Nos						
	b. For Ag, Ni, Co, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn, V, Ti by AAS Method	Nos						
	c. For PGE	Nos						
vii)	Major Oxide Analysis							
	a) Estimation of major oxides by XRF/whole rock analysis for primary samples (CaO, MgO, SiO ₂ , Al ₂ O ₃ , LOI, Na ₂ O, Fe ₂ O ₃ , MnO, K ₂ O, TiO ₂ , SO ₃ , P ₂ O ₅ , Cr ₂ O ₃ , ZnO, V ₂ O ₅)	per sample	4.1.15a	4200	230	9,66,000	131	5,50,200
								45 BRS+ 80CS + 6 PIT

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	Estimation of major oxides by XRF/whole rock analysis for check samples	per sample	4.1.15a	4200	23	96,600	14	58,800	5 BRS + 8 CS +1 PIT
	Determination of insitu Bulk Density		4.10	3,540	2	7,080	2	7,080	
2	<u>Physical & Petrological Studies</u>								
i	Preparation of thin section	Nos							
ii	Study of thin section	Nos							
iii	Preparation of polish section	Nos	4.3.2	1,549	5	7,745	5	7,745	
iv	study of polished section	Nos	4.3.4	4,232	5	21,160	5	21,160	
v	Digital Photographs	Nos	4.3.7	280	10	2,800	10	2,800	
vi	Whole Rock Analysis	Nos							
vii	Sp. Gravity	Nos							
	SEM Studies	per hour							
viii	EPMA studies	per hour							
	Sub total G					11,01,385		6,47,785	
H	Total A to G					68,39,177		45,04,193	
I	Geological Report Preparation	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.2	5.2 (i)		3,41,959		2,25,210	Reimbursement will be made after submission of the final Geological Report in Hard Copies (5 Nos) and the soft copy to NMET.
J	Peer review Charges		As per EC decision			30,000		30,000	

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K	Preparation of Exploration Proposal (5 Hard copies with a soft copy)	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.1	2% of the Cost or Rs. 5.0 Lakhs whichever is less	1,36,784	90,084	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.			
L	Total Estimated Cost without GST			73,47,919		48,49,487				
M	Provision for GST (18% of J)			13,22,625		8,72,908	GST will be reimburse as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate			
N	Total Estimated Cost with GST			86,70,545		57,22,394	29,48,151			
			or Say Rs. In Lakhs	86.71		57.22	29.48			
				Change in amount			(-) Rs 29.69 lakhs (~34.24% de-escalation)			
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 the Paragraph 3 of NMET SoC and Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execusion 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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List of participants who attended the 86th Meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committee (TCC-I) of NMEDT held on 11th December 2025, through video conferencing mode

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34	Representative of DGM Kerala				
35	Representative of DMG Karnataka				

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