

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust
Minutes of the 93rd Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1) Meeting
held on 27th and 30th March 2026 through video conferencing

The 93rd 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 27th and 30th March 2026. Members of TCC-1, NMEDT and representatives from DGM Rajasthan, DGM MP, Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited, PRB InfraProjects Pvt. Ltd., M/s Ocean Drilling and Exploration Private Limited, MAPL, BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd, Deepsar Mineral Explorer, IBM, MECL, Critical Mineral Trackers, Geoexpore Pvt. Ltd., M/s. MMPL Private Limited, M/s Bhushilp Mines & Minerals Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Indian Mine Planners & Consultants, M/s. Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., DGM Karnataka, M/s. Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions have attended the meeting through their respective VC modes.

The list of participants is enclosed in **Annexure-5**.

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) 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 93.1: Technical evaluation of new project proposals

Agenda 93.1.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 Stage) for Zirconium, Glauconite, Jasper & Associated minerals in Bhagwanpura, Jaloda Jageer; Tehsil- Nimbahera (District- Chittorgarh) & Chhoti-Sadri (District- Pratapgarh), Rajasthan

[Implementing Agency: Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 45L/7, 45L/10, and 45L/11. The area exposes rocks of the volcanic assemblage belonging to the Khairmalia Andesite Formation, which lies unconformably over the Early Precambrian Granite and the Banded Gneissic Complex (BGC).
- b. The Khairmalia Formation is overlain by an assemblage of interlayered fine clastics comprising Khardeola Shale, siltstone, and thin sandstone, followed by the upper sandstone unit (Khardeola Sandstone) of the Khardeola Formation of the Vindhyan Supergroup, exposed in the southeastern part of Rajasthan.
- c. The Khardeola Sandstone is overlain, with gradational, intercalated, or sharp contacts, by the algae-dominated Bhagwanpura Limestone Formation.
- d. DGM-Rajasthan carried out investigations for cement-grade limestone during FS 1989–92 near villages Binota, Bhagwanpura, Bambori, and Jaloda, in Nimbahera,

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- Chhoti Sadri, and Bari Sadri areas of Pratapgarh and Chittorgarh districts.
- e. Surface samples have indicated 38–44% CaO with low SiO₂ and MgO content. To assess the depth persistence and grade of mineralization, five boreholes were drilled in the area at an interval of 250 m, with a total drilling of 170 m. A total of 71 core samples were collected, which revealed 30–38% CaO, 20–30% SiO₂, and 1–4% MgO content.
 - f. Regional Mineral Targeting (RMT) by GSI-WR was carried out in the Hamirgarh–Bhiyana area, covering parts of Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, and Udaipur districts in the Aravalli Craton, Rajasthan, during FS: 2022–24, over an area of 3000 sq. km.
 - g. Based on the outcome of the RMT work, five G4-stage exploration projects for base metals, REE, and Ag were proposed. Out of these, three G4-stage exploration projects—namely Mangrop–Nayatalav for Cu and Ag, Det–Kanti for Cu, Pb, and Ag, and Akola–Newaniya for Cu and REE—have been approved.
 - h. Two other G4-stage exploration projects, namely Hinta–Bejarda Block for Cu and associated mineralization and Motida–Balicha Block for Cu and associated mineralization, have also been approved for FS 2025–26.
 - i. During the NGCM work carried out by GSI, a total of 34 stream sediment samples were analysed, which yielded anomalous K₂O values ranging from 0.909% to 4.466% and Zr values ranging from 184 ppm to 819.169 ppm.
 - j. In view of the above, the agency presented the proposed block for G4-stage exploration to assess the mineral resource potential of zirconium, glauconite, jasper, and associated minerals. The proposed work components include large-scale geological mapping (1:12,500 scale), geochemical sampling (bedrock/soil/stream sediment), and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G4 category.
 - k. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the proposed block is dominantly comprised of limestone, dolomite, and volcanic rocks. The Committee suggested that the agency modify the proposed block and primarily focus on the glauconite-bearing horizon. It was further observed that the zirconium values indicated in the proposal are based only on NGCM data.
 - l. The Committee enquired about the field visit carried out by the exploration agency. The agency informed the Committee that the field visit had been undertaken, but the samples collected were not analysed.
 - m. The Committee suggested that the agency undertake a detailed field visit, re-draw the block boundary by excluding areas occupied by limestone, dolomite, and volcanic rocks, and also avoid wildlife sanctuary areas and existing mining leases. The agency was further advised to focus on glauconitic sandstone horizons, collect samples at regular intervals, establish the glauconite-bearing horizon, and present the analytical data. If the K₂O values are found to be encouraging with respect to the cut-off grade, the area may thereafter be proposed for G4-stage exploration. Since the agency is already executing a project in the nearby area, it was also suggested to expeditiously undertake the field visit and present the modified proposal after incorporating the observations of the Committee.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	RMT project in Hamirgarh-Bhiyana area, in parts of Bhilwara, Chittorgarh & Udaipur district, Aravalli Craton, Rajasthan has been carried out. G-4 stage project were approved and being executed.
2.	MECL	MECL has not carried out exploration in the proposed block
3.	AMD	NA

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4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	<p>The partly area falls in department explored block. In this area, the department had carried out investigation (in F.S. 89-1992) for cement grade limestone near village Binota, Bhagwanpura, Bambori, Jaloda Tehsil Nimbahera Chhoti Sadri a Bari Sadri district Pratapgarh and Chittorgarh.</p> <p>Pillar M of the proposed block falls within the eco-sensitive zone of Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary.</p> <p>The area is overlapped by three mining leases—ML No. 10/2025, 26/2022, and 21/2021—as well as the sanctioned intent letter areas for Mining Lease Nos. 1/2025 and 2/2025.</p> <p>“Consent for exploration in the block may be granted, subject to exclusion of the existing lease areas, LoI-granted areas, and the eco-sensitive zone of Sitamata Wildlife Sanctuary, and after obtaining the necessary permissions”</p>
5.	NMEDT	<p>The proposed block is not overlapping with NMEDT funded block.</p>

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as the proposed area covers only a limited extent of the glauconite-bearing horizon. The Committee suggested that the agency revisit the proposal, undertake a field visit, collect samples at regular intervals, establish the glauconite-bearing horizon, and present the analytical data.

Agenda 93.1.2. Preliminary exploration (G-3) for Lead, Zinc, Cobalt, Iron, Manganese & associated minerals in Khajuri area of Bhilwara District, Rajasthan

[Implementing Agency: Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 45O/03. The area exposes high-grade metamorphosed rocks of the Mangalwar Complex and low-grade metamorphosed rocks (greenschist facies) of the Hindoli Group of the Bhilwara Supergroup.
- b. G4-stage exploration for lead-zinc mineralization in the Jhikri area, Bhilwara District, was carried out by GSI during F.S. 1971–72. The investigation reported the occurrence of gossan zones within ferruginous breccia, the presence of sulphides (galena and pyrite) in breccia fragments, and the localisation of extensive old workings along the shear zone. These features were considered favourable loci for mineralization and indicate strong evidence of Pb mineralization in the area.
- c. Reconnaissance Survey for REE and Rare Metals in and around the Para-Ugain–Kalera–Devra–Paroli–Johna Silli areas of Bhilwara District, Rajasthan, was carried out by GSI-WR during F.S. 2018–19. The analytical results indicated Σ REE values in bedrock ranging from 5 ppm to 2122.77 ppm (average ~350 ppm), with eight samples recording elevated values between 1000 and 1500 ppm, and the highest concentration reported north of the Odiyakhara area.
- d. MECL has carried out Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for base metals and associated elements, gold, and REE in the Kachola–Amargarh–Jhikri area of Bhilwara District, Rajasthan.
- e. In borehole MNK-1, dark-coloured veins and veinlets of calcitic nature were observed within impure limestone and phyllite. These veins are, at places,

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- inferred to be possible carriers of REE mineralization.
- f. The areas around Amargarh and Gelaji have also been proposed for investigation for Mn, as pyrolusite and psilomelane mineralization were reported during geological mapping, sampling, and core logging carried out by MECL. It was further reported that two proposed boreholes in the MECL area are pending for NOC from the Forest Department.
 - g. DGM-Rajasthan carried out exploration for base metals near villages Amargarh, Jhikri, and Khajuri, Jahazpur Tehsil, Bhilwara District, during F.S. 2021–23. The work comprised Regional Geological Mapping (RGM) over an area of 30.00 sq. km and Detailed Geological Mapping (DGM) over 4.30 sq. km. In addition, 100 spot samples of ferruginous brecciated chert, gossan, dolomite, and impure limestone were collected from surface exposures and old workings near Kankariya Khera (including depths of 8–15 m), Chhachhiya, east of Megapura, Bherunath Temple, and southeast of Bekali, Jahazpur Tehsil, Bhilwara District.
 - h. Two ferruginous brecciated chert and ferruginous phyllite bands were mapped, which are intermittently exposed over a strike length of about 7 km. Several old workings were also observed within the ferruginous brecciated chert bands and dolomite. As per the conclusions of the report, a total of 100 spot samples were collected and analysed.
 - i. Analytical results of 93 samples indicated Fe values ranging from 1.00% to 62.25%. Only nine samples recorded Pb values from 0.18% to 0.90% and Zn values from 0.11% to 0.21%, while only four samples showed Cu values ranging from 0.29% to 1.26%. Further, 25 samples indicated Mn values ranging from 0.086% to 0.59%.
 - j. In view of the above, the agency presented the proposed block for G3-stage exploration for lead, zinc, cobalt, iron, manganese, and associated minerals. The proposed work components include detailed geological mapping (1:4,000 scale), geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G3 category.
 - k. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that MECL has already carried out G4-stage exploration in the proposed block. It was further noted that two proposed boreholes are still pending for drilling due to forest-related issues. The Committee also observed that the reported values of lead, zinc, cobalt, and other associated metals are low.
 - l. The Committee sought clarification from DGM-Rajasthan regarding the status of FSI-Aravalli in the proposed block. DGM-Rajasthan informed that the status of FSI-Aravalli will be provided. Till receipt of the FSI-Aravalli status, the proposal was kept on hold.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	A G4 stage work has been carried out in the north of the proposed area. At present no project is going on in the proposed area.
2.	MECL	MECL has carried out Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Basemetals and Associated elements, Gold and REE in Kachola Amargarh-Jhikri Area. Two proposed boreholes of MECL are pending for NOC from forest department.
3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	DGM has carried out exploration work for Basemetal and dolomite in the area.

		This proposal area does not conflict with any mineral concessions and litigations other than conflicting with Aravali as per FSI report, which is sub-judice at Hon'ble Supreme Court. Consent for exploration for this proposal is given conditionally, but exploration execution shall remain affected with decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard.
5.	NMEDT	Overlapping with NMEDT funded G4 block of MECL.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as the reported values of lead, zinc, cobalt, and other associated metals are low, and the FSI-Aravalli status of the proposed block is awaited from DGM-Rajasthan.

Agenda 93.1.3. Preliminary Exploration for Bauxite and Associated Critical Mineral Around Jharkarwadi Block, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra

[Implementing Agency: Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt. Ltd. Nagpur]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 47H/07. The area exposes lateritic capping, with Deccan Basalt occurring in the valley portions. The top cover is hard and limonitic in nature.
- b. The bauxite deposit occurs as impersistent lenses and pockets within the lateritic capping. It is pink in colour and exhibits sub-conchoidal fracture in its massive and hard variety. Pisolitic, massive, brecciated, and nodular types of bauxite have been observed.
- c. GSI carried out Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for bauxite and aluminous laterite in the Baparde area, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra, during F.S. 2022–23. A total of 6 BRS samples recorded Al_2O_3 values ranging from 40% to 51% and SiO_2 values ranging from 1.26% to 6.36%, with Ga values from 38 to 73 ppm and V values from 404 to 959 ppm. In addition, 2 PT samples recorded Al_2O_3 values from 48.72% to 51.69%, Fe_2O_3 values from 12.18% to 17.86%, Ga values from 62 to 67 ppm, and V values from 230 to 439 ppm.
- d. During the Reconnaissance Survey, based on the analytical results, gibbsite was reported as the dominant ore mineral, with anatase, kaolinite, and goethite occurring as minor constituents. The bauxite/aluminous laterite is manifested at the surface in the form of pisolitic, massive, nodular, and concretionary grains of gibbsite within aluminous laterite.
- e. GSI also carried out regional assessment of lateritic profiles developed over the Western Dharwar sequences and Deccan Traps in parts of Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, and Kolhapur districts, Maharashtra under an RP item during F.S. 2022–24.
- f. In view of the above, the agency presented the proposed block for G3-stage exploration for bauxite and associated critical minerals. The proposed work components include detailed geological mapping (1:4,000 scale), geochemical sampling, and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G3 category.
- g. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the proposed block is partly overlapping with the buffer zone of the auctionable G4/GM block titled "Reconnaissance Survey for Bauxite in Devgarh Area, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra (Stage-G4)".

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- h. The Committee further observed that the western and eastern parts of the proposed block expose basalt. The agency informed that a field visit had been undertaken, and samples were collected. The agency also presented the locations of bedrock samples along with their analytical values from the proposed block.
- i. The Committee suggested that the agency avoid the buffer zone of the auctionable G4 block and modify the proposed block accordingly. It was further advised that the borehole locations be planned in accordance with the geology of the proposed block, and that drilling in basalt-exposed areas be avoided.
- j. The agency accordingly modified the proposal, and the Committee recommended the proposal.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	GSI has carried out two mineral exploration programmes. 1. Reconnaissance survey for bauxite and aluminous laterite in Baparde area, Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra. (Field Season: 2022-2023) 2. Regional assessment of lateritic profiles developed over the western Dharwar sequences and Deccan Traps in parts of Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri and Kolhapur. (RP item), FS. 2022-24.
2.	MECL	Not overlapping with MECL explored block and ongoing blocks.
3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	No previous & ongoing mineral exploration in the proposed area
5.	NMEDT	There is no NMEDT funded projects in and around the proposed block as per the NGDR Portal.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the proposal titled "Preliminary Exploration Work (G-3) for Bauxite and Associated Critical Minerals, Jharkarwadi Block, District: Sindhudurg, Maharashtra" for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 238.69 lakhs (including GST) within time schedule of 10 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 1A & 1B. The item will be reviewed after 3 and 6 months.

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Preliminary Exploration Work (G-3) for Bauxite and Associated Critical Minerals, Jharkarwadi Block, District: Sindhudurg, Maharashtra
Total Area: 8.00 Sq. Km; Total Drilling: 900 m (44 BHs). Total Duration 10 months. Review after: 3 and 6 months

S.No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMET SoC 2025		Estimated Cost of the Proposal		Remarks
			SoC-Item-SI No.	Rates as per SoC	Qty.	Amount (Rs)	
A	GEOLOGICAL WORK						
i	Geological Mapping (1:4000)	Per sq. km.	1.1	18300	8	1,46,400	
ii	Charges for one Geologist for Geological Mapping - Field	Per day	1.2.1a	14,500	150	21,75,000	Including drilling, core logging, sampling and mapping
iii	Charges for one Geologist per-HQ	Per day	1.2.1a	10,500	30	3,15,000	
iv	2 labours / party (Rs 541/day/labour) (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	Per day	5.8	541	300	1,62,300	
Sub-Total-A						27,98,700.00	
B	Survey Work						
1	Fixation of Borehole and determination of co - ordinate and Reduce Level of the boreholes by DGPS	Per point of observation	1.3.2	24000	48	11,52,000.00	4 Boundary point + 44 BH points
2	Drone Topographic Survey	Per sq. km.	7b	70000	8	5,60,000.00	
3	Charge of One Qualified Surveyor	Per day	1.3.1	10500	20	2,10,000.00	
4	Labours (4 Nos)	Per day	5.8	541	80	43,280.00	

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	SubTotal-B					19,65,280.00	
C	Drilling (In house)						
1	Drilling (soft rock)	m	2.2.1.1c	5,500	900	4950000	
2	Land / Crop Compensation (in case the BH falls in agricultural Land)	per BH	5.6	30,000	44	1320000	As per actuals with maximum ceiling of Rs.30000
3	Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30")	per borehole	2.2.7	2,000	44	88000	
4	Borehole plugging by cement	per borehole	2.2.8	10,000	44	440000	
5	Miscellaneous Charges (Transportation, Accommodation, Camp setup & Winding, Approach road)	Lumpsum	2.2.9 (i)	For Drilling cost less than 50 Lakhs: 25% of the Drilling Cost	1	1237500	For Drilling cost less than 50 Lakhs: 25% of the Drilling Cost
6	Drill Core Preservation	per m	5.3	1,590	700	1113000	1 complete BH plus mineralized zone
7	Charges for one Sampler per day (1 Party)	one sampler per day	1.2.1b	7,850	112	879200	
8	Labors (4 Nos)	day	5.8	541	448	242368	
	SubTotal - C					10270068	
D	LABORATORY STUDIES						
i	Major oxides (WD XRF)- (oxides+ traces -24 elements)	Per Sample	4.1.17a	4200	750	31,50,000	700 core sample+ 50 BRS

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ii	Analysis for associated trace element	Per Sample	4.1.17b	0		0	
iii	Check Samples (5% Internal+ 10% External) for Major oxides (WD XRF)- (oxides+ traces -24 elements)	Per Sample	4.1.17a	4,200	75	3,15,000	
iv	Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element (U,Ta,Ge,Be,Hf,Sn,As,Rb,Th) by ICP-MS (sequential technique)	Per Sample	4.1.15	7,400	50	3,70,000	
v	Check Samples for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element	Per Sample	4.1.16	7,400	5	37,000	
vi	Reactive silica analysis	Per Sample	4.1.19d	5,000	20	1,00,000	
D.1	Petrographic studies						
i	Preparation of thin polished sections	Per Sample	4.3.2	800	10	8,000	
ii	Study of thin sections	Per Sample	4.3.4	2800	10	28,000	
iii	XRD	Per Sample	4.5.2	4000	5	20,000	
v	Ore Microscopy Study	Per Sample	4.3.4	2800	0	0	
vi	Bulk Density	Per Sample	4.8.3	2500	2	5,000	
				SubTotal-D		40,33,000.00	
				Total		1,90,67,048.00	
E	Miscellaneous Charges						

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1	Preparation of Exploration Proposal (5 Hard copies with a soft copy)	5 Hardcopies with a soft copy	5.1	675000	1	381341	EA has to submit the Hard Copies and the soft copy of the final proposal along with Maps and Plan a suggested by the TCC-NMET in its meeting while Clearing the proposal.	
2	Geological Report Preparation		5.2	For the projects having cost exceeding Rs.150 lakhs		750000	Reimbursement will be made after submission of the final Geological Report in Hard Copies (5 Nos) and the soft copy to NMET.	
3	Peer review Charges		As per EC decision	30000	1	30,000		
F						Total Estimated Cost without GST (A+B+C+D+E)	2,02,28,388.96	
G						Provision for GST (18%ofI)	36,41,110.01	GST will be reimbursed as per actual and as per Notified prescribed rate
H						Total Estimated Cost with GST	2,38,69,498.97	
Or Say Rs. In Lakhs 238.69								
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 the Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.							
4	Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.							
5	Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.							
6	All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency.							

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**Time Schedule/ Action Plan for Preliminary Exploration Work (G-3) for Bauxite and Associated Critical Minerals, Jharkarwadi Block,
District: Sindhudurg, Maharashtra**

Sl.No.	Description		1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10		
1	Camp setting	months				Review				Review						
2	Geological mapping + BRS Sampling															
3	Survey work															
4	Laboratory Studies of BRS															
5	Drilling															
6	Sampling days															
7	Laboratory Studies															
8	Report Writing with Review															

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Agenda 93.1.4. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Andhariyanes Block (6.88 Sq, Kms) Upleta Taluka, Rajkot District, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: PRB InfraProjects Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The project was not discussed as the proposal for bulk minerals including limestone are kept in abeyance.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as proposals for bulk minerals, including limestone, are presently kept in abeyance.

Agenda 93.1.5. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for Limestone in Pransla Block (6.52 Sq, Kms) Upleta Taluka, Rajkot District, Gujarat
[Implementing Agency: PRB InfraProjects Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The project was not discussed as the proposal for bulk minerals including limestone are kept in abeyance.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as proposals for bulk minerals, including limestone, are presently kept in abeyance.

Agenda 93.1.6. Preliminary exploration (G3 Stage) of Bara Khurd Limestone Block, Maihar District, Madhya Pradesh
[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Private Limited]

- a. The project was not discussed as the proposal for bulk minerals including limestone are kept in abeyance.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as proposals for bulk minerals, including limestone, are presently kept in abeyance.

Agenda 93.1.7. Preliminary Exploration (G3 stage) for Limestone in Tonga, Morena District, Madhya Pradesh
[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Private Limited]

- a. The project was not discussed as the proposal for bulk minerals including limestone are kept in abeyance.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as proposals for bulk minerals, including limestone, are presently kept in abeyance.

Agenda 93.1.8. Preliminary Exploration (G3 stage) for limestone in Sabalgarh Block, Morena District, Madhya Pradesh
[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Private Limited]

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- a. The project was not discussed as the proposal for bulk minerals including limestone are kept in abeyance.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as proposals for bulk minerals, including limestone, are presently kept in abeyance.

Agenda 93.1.9. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) of Vanadium Scandium and Associated Minerals Hosted in Aluminous Laterite in Pali Area, Ratnagiri District Maharashtra

[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Private Limited]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 47H/9, 47H/5, 47G/8, and 47G/12, and exposes lithounits of the Deccan Trap comprising basaltic lava flows. These flows exhibit a cumulative thickness of approximately 368 m, with individual flows ranging from 15 m to 58 m in thickness. Intrusive bodies in the form of basic dykes occur at Gadi Nala and east of Kochhri.
- b. Geochemical Mapping, as part of the NGCM project of GSI, was carried out during F.S. 2021–22 covering Toposheet Nos. 47H/09 and 47H/10, and highlighted significant potential within laterite cap rocks overlying Deccan Basalts. The study recorded anomalous values of economically important trace elements such as vanadium (V), nickel (Ni), cobalt (Co), chromium (Cr), and REEs around villages including Devle, Lanja, and Kondye.
- c. Analytical results for lateritic profiles in the broader proposed area indicate the following ranges: SiO₂ (23.35% to 43.80%), Al₂O₃ (19.89% to 26.04%), Fe₂O₃ (14.33% to 27.60%), TiO₂ (2.02% to 17.50%), Ga (23 to 45 ppm), Sc (28 to 68 ppm), V (316 to 696 ppm), Ni (106 to 272 ppm), Co (35 to 114 ppm), and Cr (160 to 644 ppm). These findings are further supported by detailed analytical results of 81 Bed Rock Samples (BRS) and 27 Core Samples (CS) classified as aluminous laterite, which recorded V values ranging from 137 to 2543 ppm and Sc values from 17 to 75 ppm.
- d. GSI, during F.S. 2022–24, carried out regional assessment of lateritic profiles developed over the Western Dharwar sequences and Deccan Traps in parts of Sindhurg, Ratnagiri, and Kolhapur districts, Maharashtra.
- e. Based on field observations, analytical results of bedrock samples of lateritic profiles, regolith samples over granitoid bodies, and core samples from drilled boreholes, the most prolific enrichment zones for Ga, V, Cr, and Co were identified within the lateritic profiles.
- f. As an outcome of the above project, a total of 16 blocks were demarcated/delineated in Ratnagiri and Sindhurg districts of Maharashtra. Among these, two profiles were studied in detail in the vicinity of the proposed block, namely the Zarewadi area near the western boundary and the Joshigaon area near the southern boundary.
- g. In view of the above, the agency proposed G4-stage exploration, involving large-scale geological mapping (1:12500 scale), pitting/trenching, ground geophysical survey, and assessment of mineral potential through scout drilling.
- h. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that more than 50% of the western part of the proposed block overlaps with the approved project of GSI for F.S. 2026–27. It was further observed that the eastern part of the proposed block falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone.
- i. The Committee suggested that the agency identify a geologically potential area by excluding the overlapping area and the Eco-Sensitive Zone, and resubmit the

proposal for in-principle approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	One G4 stage mineral exploration programme for bauxite, aluminous laterite and associated critical/trace elements in Pali block, Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra has been approved for taking up in FS: 2026-27 by GSI covering the parts of the proposed block. RP item carried out taken by GSI during FS. 2022-24.
2.	MECL	MECL does not have any overlap with the proposed block.
3.	AMD	Not received.
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Not received.
5.	NMEDT	The proposed block is not overlapping with NMEDT funded block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as the proposed area overlaps with an approved GSI project for F.S. 2026–27, and the eastern part of the block falls within an Eco-Sensitive Zone. The Committee suggested that the agency identify a geologically potential area by excluding the overlapping and eco-sensitive areas, and resubmit the proposal for in-principle approval.

Agenda 93.1.10. Preliminary exploration for Vanadium, Graphite, Barium and other associated minerals in Sundungra Block, Champawat District, Uttarakhand

[Implementing Agency: M/s Ocean Drilling and Exploration Private Limited]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 53O/15 and comprises Proterozoic rocks of the Gumalikhhet Formation (Almora Group), with minor exposures of Champawat Granite.
- b. It was observed that carbonaceous phyllite occurs as thinly foliated bands within grey phyllite, with widths varying from a few centimetres to about 80 m, indicating variable depositional conditions.
- c. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for vanadium and allied metals in the Chaura, Sirmoli, and Lohaghat areas was carried out during F.S. 2022–23. Analytical results of 100 samples indicated vanadium values ranging from 33 to 5212 ppm (median: 578 ppm) and barium values ranging from 164 to 40,518 ppm (median: 4798 ppm). Yttrium values ranged from 23 to 444 ppm (median: 103 ppm), while molybdenum values ranged from 0.85 to 288 ppm (median: 63 ppm).
- d. In view of the above, the agency proposed G3-stage exploration involving detailed geological mapping (1:2000 scale), pitting/trenching, and assessment of mineral potential.
- e. The proposal was discussed during the 91st TCC-I meeting, and the Committee accorded in-principle approval, with the suggestion that the agency submit the DPR in the forthcoming meeting of TCC-I.
- f. The Committee reviewed the proposal and suggested that the agency extend the

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block in the southern part to cover the entire southern carbonaceous phyllite band, and reduce the area in the northern barren part.

- g. The Committee further suggested that the exploration activities be carried out in two phases. Phase-I should include detailed geological mapping on 1:2,000 scale, systematic sampling, PTS, and ground geophysical surveys. Systematic sampling should be undertaken to define the width and lateral continuity of graphite- and vanadium-bearing bands within each carbonaceous phyllite horizon. Phase-II should comprise drilling of 1500 m, including first-level boreholes followed by second-level drilling. The extent of geophysical investigations and sub-surface drilling should be finalized based on the outcome of detailed mapping and systematic surface sampling, after review. Tentatively, 15 first-level boreholes may be planned at 30 m vertical intersection up to a depth of 60 m, followed by 4 second-level boreholes at 60 m vertical intersection up to a depth of 100 m.
- h. The agency accordingly modified the proposal, and the Committee recommended the proposal.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	The encouraging values of V, Ba, Y and Mo in the area indicate a promising potential for V and allied metals. The area needs to be further explored both in terms of further reconnaissance work in the strike continuity of the existing carbonaceous phyllite bands as well as G-3 stage investigation for resource estimation.
2.	MECL	MECL does not have any overlap with the proposed block.
3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	No overlap with any previous/current exploration or any CL/ML
5.	NMEDT	The proposed block is not overlapping with NMEDT funded block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended the proposal titled “Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite, Vanadium and associated critical minerals in Sundungra Block, District: Champawat, Uttarakhand” for approval of PSC, NMEDT with an estimated cost of Rs. 714.46 lakhs (including GST) within time schedule of 12 months for carrying out the proposed work and submission of report as per Annexure – 2A & 2B. The item will be reviewed after 3, 6 and 9 months.

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Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite, Vanadium and associated critical minerals in Sundungra Block, District: Champawat, Uttarakhand
Area: 2.4 sq.km, Scale:1:2,000. Drilling: 1500 m, (1st level BH: 15, 30 m vertical intersection and 5 BH of 60 m vertical intersection)
(Schedule timeline: 12 months Review: After 03, 06 & 09 Months)

S. No.	Item of Work *	Unit *	Rates as per NMEDT SoC (2025-26)		Estimated Cost of the Proposal			Remarks
			SoC-Item No. *	Rates as per SoC * (a)	Qty. (b)	Total Amount (Rs) (a*b)	Hilly terrain of Himalaya region (Total amount X 2)	
A	Geological Mapping Other Geological Work & Surveying							
1	Detailed mapping (1:2000) with topographic contouring	per sq. km.	1.1	28,600	2.4	68640	68640	
	a. Charges for Geologist per day (Field) for geological mapping, drilling work, core logging & sample marking	day	1.2.1a (b)	14,500	180	26,10,000	52,20,000	2.4 Sq.Km in Hilly area
	b. Labours Charges; Base rate	day	5.8	541	360	1,94,760	3,89,520	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	1.2.1a (a)	10,500	50	5,25,000	5,25,000	
2	a. Charges for one Sampler per day (1 Party)	one sampler per day	1.2.1b	7,850	213	16,72,050	33,44,100	
	b. Labours (4 Nos)	day	5.8	541	852	4,60,932	9,21,864	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour

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								Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher.
Sub Total- A						54,62,742	1,04,69,124	
B	Survey work (1st Phase)							
1	DGPS Survey for BH fixation & RL determination	Per Point of observation	1.3.2	24,000	24	576000	1152000	20 nos. of BH plus 4 Boundary points
2	Charges of Surveyor (1 party) for topographic mapping in 1:2000 scale and contouring at 3m interval	one surveyor per day	1.3.1	10,500	50	525000	1050000	2.4 Sq.Km in Hilly area
3	Labors Charges for survey work (4 laborers)	day	5.8	541	200	108200	216400	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher.
Sub-Total B						12,09,200	24,18,400	
C	MINERAL INVESTIGATION (In house DRILLING) (2nd Phase)							
1	Excavation of trenches upto 2.0m depth (1st Phase)	per cu.m	2.1.1	4125	150	618750	1237500	Trenching work to be done after completion of SP Survey
2	Core Drilling (Hard rock in NQ size) (2nd Phase)	m	2.2.1.1d	10,000	1,500	15000000	3,00,00,000	1st level BH: 15, 30 m vertical intersection and 5 BH of 60 m vertical intersection. The depth of boreholes maybe revised after establishing geological continuity of Vanadium & graphite bands in first few boreholes.

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								2. Depth of borehole will vary due to undulating topography
5	Land / Crop Compensation (in case the BH falls in agricultural Land)	per BH	5.6	30,000	20	6,00,000	12,00,000	
6	Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30")	per borehole	2.2.7	2000	20	40,000	80,000	
7	Borehole plugging by cement	Lumpsum per borehole	2.2.8	10000	20	2,00,000	4,00,000	
8	Miscellaneous Charges (Transportation of Drilling Rig, Accommodation for Drill Camp, Camp setting and winding, construction of Approach road)	Lumpsum	2.2.9			25,00,000	25,00,000	For drilling cost more than 2 Cr: 10% of cost with maximum ceiling of 25 lakhs. Also as per SoC, maximum ceiling is Rs. 25,00,000
9	Drill Core Preservation	per m	5.3	1,590	500	7,95,000	7,95,000	1 complete BH and remaining mineralised zones
Sub Total C						1,91,35,000	3,62,12,500	
D	Ground Geophysical Survey (1st Phase)							
1	SP survey	lkm	3.3a	1,55,350	10	15,53,500	31,07,000	
6	Expert charges for Geophysicist in HQ	day	3.18	10,500	10	1,05,000	1,05,000	
7	Expert charges for Geophysicist in Field	day	3.18	14,500	-	-	-	
Sub Total D						16,58,500	32,12,000	
E	LABORATORY STUDIES							
1	Chemical Analysis							
i)	Primary samples							
	a. BRS/Channel sample by Major oxides (WD XRF)- (oxides+ traces -24 elements)	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	100	4,20,000		200m*20 grid channel sampling; 100 samples

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	b. Check samples Internal (10%)	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	10	42,000		
ii)	Trench samples							
	a. Trench sample by Major oxides (WD XRF)- (oxides+ traces -24 elements)	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	150	6,30,000		a. 1m sample length from trench
	b. Check samples Internal (10%)	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	15	63,000		
iii)	Core samples							
	a. Core sample by Major oxides (WD XRF)- (oxides+ traces -24 elements)	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	500	21,00,000		
	b. Check samples Internal (10%)	Nos	4.1.17a	4,200	50	2,10,000		
iv)	a. Graphite Proximate Analysis	Nos	4.1.18	3,614	750	27,10,500		500 BH + 100 BRS + 150 Trench Samples
	b. Check samples Internal (10%)	Nos	4.1.18	3,614	75	2,71,050		
2	Petro Chemical Samples							
i)	Analysis of one rock/ soil sample for quantitative analysis of 14 REE elements + 9 trace element (U,Ta,Ge,Be,Hf,Sn,As,Rb,Th) by ICP-MS	Nos	4.1.15	7400	50	3,70,000		Including BRS, PTS and Core samples
	b. Check samples Internal (10%)	Nos	4.1.15	7400	5	37,000		
3	XRD analysis for identification of minerals (Random)	Nos	4.5.2	4,000	10	40,000		
4	Physical & Petrological Studies							

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i	Preparation of polished thin section	Nos	4.3.2	800	10	8,000		
ii	Study of thin section	Nos	4.3.4	2,800	10	28,000		
iii	Preparation of polished section	Nos	4.3.2	800	-	-		
iv	Study of polished thin section	Nos	4.3.4	2,800	-	-		
v	Raman Spectrometry (graphite crystallinity)	hrs	4.5.1	2,700	5	13,500		
5	Sp. Gravity	Nos	4.8.1	2,500	5	12,500		
6	EPMA	hrs	4.4.1	10,500	-	-		
	Sub Total E					69,55,550	69,55,550	
H	Total A to E					3,44,20,992	5,92,67,574	
I	Geological Report Preparation	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.2			7,50,000		Reimbursement will be made after submission of the final Geological Report in Hard Copies (5 Nos) and the soft copy to NMEDT.
J	Peer review Charges		As per EC decision			30,000		
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		5,00,000		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						6,05,47,574	
M	Provision for GST (18% of J)						1,08,98,563.32	GST will be reimbursed as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate

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N	Total Estimated Cost with GST			-	7,14,46,137	
			or Say Rs. In Lakhs	-	714.46	
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 the Paragraph 3 of NMET SoC and Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execution of the project by 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.					
*	SoC Item No, Unit and Rate for each item of work must be as mentioned in the SoC.					

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Time Schedule/ Action Plan for Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite, Vanadium and associated critical minerals in Sundungra Block, District: Champawat, Uttarakhand

S.No.																	
			1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12
1	Camp Setting	Months/Days															
2	Geological Mapping & Sampling	days															
3	Surface Drilling (2 rigs)	m															
4	Core logging and sampling																
5	Ground Geophysical survey	m															
6	Geophysicist party days (HQ) for data interpretation & Report	Days															
7	Survey Party days	days															
8	Geologist Man days (Field)	days															
9	Geologist Man days (HQ)	days															
10	Sampler Man days	days															
11	Laboratory Studies	Nos.															
12	Report Writing with Peer Review	months															
13	Camp Winding	months															

Review

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Review

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Agenda 93.1.11. Preliminary Exploration (G3) of REE -Bearing Minerals in Lakhojan block, Karbi Anglong District, Assam
[Implementing Agency: Indian Mine Planner and Consultant]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 83F/10 and the area exposes migmatitic gneisses of the Assam–Meghalaya Gneissic Complex (AMGC), along with phyllites, quartzites, and schists of the Shillong Group, as well as Late Proterozoic granitoids.
- b. Geochemical mapping carried out by Kumar et al. during F.S. 2014–15 reported anomalous TREE values up to 2775 ppm in the Lakhojan area and 925 ppm in the Geleki area from stream sediment samples collected from Toposheet Nos. 83F/06 and 83F/10, respectively.
- c. Majumdar and Dutta (2014) reported high TREE values averaging 3643 ppm from pink porphyritic granites of the Panbari–Geleki area (equivalent to the Kathalguri granitoids), located in Toposheet Nos. 83F/06 and 83F/10.
- d. Detailed petrographic studies carried out by Majumdar et al. (2016) on these granitoids reported the presence of REE-bearing accessory minerals such as allanite, titanite, zircon, xenotime, bastnaesite, and monazite.
- e. Subsequently, G4-stage investigation, along with auger drilling, was carried out by Hrushikesh and Prasad during F.S. 2021–22, which documented regolith-hosted REE mineralization over the porphyritic granites exposed in the area.
- f. They also estimated TREE resources in two blocks, including 13.94 million tonnes with an average grade of 994 ppm (0.094 wt.%) TREE or 1162.79 ppm (0.116 wt.%) TREE₂O₃ in Lakhojan Block ‘ABCDEF’, covering an area of 2.80 sq. km.
- g. In view of the above, the agency presented the proposed block for G3-stage exploration for REE and associated mineralization. The proposed work components include detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, ground geophysical survey, and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G3 category.
- h. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the project had already been discussed during the 92nd TCC-I meeting, and that similar proposals in the same area had previously been submitted by other agencies. The Committee deferred the proposal pending clarification on the exploration status of Lakhojan Block from DDG (SU), Assam, and confirmation from DGM, Assam as to whether the proposed area falls within the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ).

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	The proposed blocks do not overlap with any ongoing projects. In past G4 work has been carried out.
2.	MECL	Not received. However, in meeting they informed that the area is given to GSI in pursuance of meeting of Secretary, Mines in the month of November and the project could not be done as the area is near to ESZ of Kaziranga National Park.
3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out any exploration / reconnaissance project in the proposed block and does not have any ongoing projects.
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Regarding any lease for minor and major minerals, there is no mining lease in the proposed areas. Moreover, DGM, Assam has not taken any exploration project for any mineral in the proposed area.

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5.	NMEDT	The proposed block is not overlapping with NMEDT funded block.
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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as the area falls within the Eco-Sensitive Zone, and clarification on the latest status is to be obtained from DGM, Assam.

**Agenda 93.1.12. Preliminary Exploration (G3) of REE -Bearing Minerals in Rangali block, Karbi Anglong District, Assam
[Implementing Agency: Indian Mine Planner and Consultant]**

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 83F/10 and exposes migmatitic gneisses of the Assam–Meghalaya Gneissic Complex (AMGC), along with phyllites, quartzites, and schists of the Shillong Group, and Late Proterozoic granitoids.
- b. Geochemical mapping (F.S. 2014–15) reported anomalous Σ REE values up to 2775 ppm in the Lakhojan area and 925 ppm in the Geleki area from stream sediment samples in Toposheet Nos. 83F/06 and 83F/10.
- c. High Σ REE values averaging ~3643 ppm have been reported from pink porphyritic granites of the Panbari–Geleki area (equivalent to Kathalguri granitoids) in Toposheet Nos. 83F/06 and 83F/10. Petrographic studies indicate the presence of REE-bearing accessory minerals such as allanite, titanite, zircon, xenotime, bastnaesite, and monazite.
- d. G4-stage investigation (F.S. 2021–22), including auger drilling, established regolith-hosted REE mineralisation over porphyritic granites. A total of 150 core samples from 52 boreholes were analysed, of which 61 samples from 18 boreholes recorded Σ REE >500 ppm. Based on these results, an estimated resource of approximately 33.90 million tonnes, with an average grade of ~818.84 ppm REE, has been delineated over an area of about 75 sq. km.
- e. In view of the above, the agency proposed the block for G3-stage exploration for REE and associated mineralization. The proposed work components include detailed geological mapping, geochemical sampling, ground geophysical surveys, and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G3 category.
- f. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the project had already been discussed during the 92nd TCC-I meeting, and that similar proposals had earlier been submitted by other agencies. It was noted that a proposal by MECL could not be executed as the area falls within the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) of Kaziranga National Park. Accordingly, the Committee deferred the proposal and sought the latest status from DGM, Assam.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	The proposed blocks do not overlap with any ongoing projects. In past G4 work has been carried out.
2.	MECL	Not received. However, in meeting they informed that the area is given to GSI in pursuance of meeting of Secretary, Mines in the month of November and the project could not be done as the area is in ESZ of Kaziranga National Park. The area was earlier proposed by MECL.

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3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out any exploration / reconnaissance project in the proposed block and does not have any ongoing projects
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Regarding any lease for minor and major minerals, there is no mining lease in the proposed areas. Moreover, DGM, Assam has not taken any exploration project for any mineral in the proposed area.
5.	NMEDT	The proposed block is not overlapping with NMEDT funded block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, as the area falls within the Eco-Sensitive Zone, and clarification on the latest status is to be obtained from DGM, Assam.

Agenda 93.2: Review of Incentive Proposals

Agenda 93.2.1. Proposal for claiming 25% Exploration Incentive for the project upgraded from G4 Stage (Reconnaissance Survey for Graphite in Darukona Area, Rayagada, Odisha) to G3

[Implementing Agency: M/s MMPL Private Limited]

- a. The agency informed that their project titled "Reconnaissance Survey for Graphite in Darukona Area, Rayagada, Odisha" of G4 stage has been upgraded to G3 level project titled "Preliminary Exploration for Graphite in Saharha Block, Rayagada, Odisha".
- b. The agency further apprised that they have submitted a final claim of INR 1,68,51,726.00 to NMEDT for settlement.
- c. The agency proposed to claim the 25% Exploration Incentive which amounts to INR 42,12,931.50, on approved/final claimed costs for G-4 stage exploration upgraded to G3 project in greenfield areas for strategic and critical minerals.
- d. The agency was informed that as per instructions of 42nd EC, the exploration incentive of 25% is to be approved only after the completion of exploration in upgraded block.
- e. The proposal was deferred and the agency was informed that they may bring the proposal for consideration after completion of project of G3 stage.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The TCC deferred the proposal and informed the agency that they may bring the proposal again after completion of project of G3 stage.

Agenda 93.3: Project Evaluation for In-Principle Approval

Agenda 93.3.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Bauxite/Aluminous Laterite and associated trace elements at Rangsagre-Dajugre Block, West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya

[Implementing Agency: MAPL]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 78K/01 and exposes migmatitic and granodioritic gneisses of the Assam-Meghalaya Gneissic Complex (AMGC), along with quartz-mica schist, quartzite, banded magnetite quartzite/chert, and serpentinised ultramafic dykes, which occur as enclaves within the AMGC.
- b. Regional geological studies in Toposheet No. 78K/01 have recorded lateritic and

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bauxitic clay cappings over porphyritic gneisses and basic intrusives, indicating favourable conditions for lateritisation.

- c. Geochemical mapping and PGRS studies in the West Garo Hills sector have reported anomalous Al_2O_3 values, along with enrichment of Ga, Co, Cu, Pb, Zr, Hf, and Total REE, indicating potential for aluminous laterite with associated trace elements.
- d. During the NGCM work carried out in F.S. 2020–21, ΣREE values ranging from 142 ppm to 694 ppm were reported. The Al_2O_3 values ranged from 10.93% to 29%, Fe_2O_3 from 2.72% to 10.37%, Cr from 36 ppm to 303 ppm, Ni from 13 ppm to 109 ppm, and Ga from 11 ppm to 32 ppm.
- e. During F.S. 2024–25, Specialised Thematic Mapping (STM) was carried out in the Dinganpara–Bikonggiri areas of West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya, partly covering Toposheet No. 78K/01. The ΣREE contents in laterite and lateritic clay ($n = 14$) range from 29.79 ppm to 1825.11 ppm (average: 355.36 ppm), with associated Al_2O_3 enrichment (~26.9%). Banded magnetite quartzite ($n = 3$) contains high Fe_2O_3 values ranging from 38.41% to 54.41%. Further, Cr values up to 8133 ppm and Ni values up to 1007 ppm have been recorded in quartz–mica–chlorite schist and ultramafic dykes, respectively, west of the Khenthapara area.
- f. A G4-stage exploration was carried out in the nearby Solanggiri and Rongmasogiri areas during F.S. 2024–25 to delineate bauxite and associated trace-element potential. The total areal extent of laterite and bauxitic clay was reported to be 10.96 sq. km, of which 7.06 sq. km comprises laterite and 3.89 sq. km comprises bauxitic clay, with thickness varying from 0.2 m to 1.2 m.
- g. Analytical results of Bed Rock Samples (BRS) ($n = 80$) collected from bauxite/laterite capping over porphyritic gneiss indicate Al_2O_3 contents ranging from 3.05% to 40.46% (average: 28.03%), Fe_2O_3 from 0.85% to 51.16%, SiO_2 from 29.74% to 59.66% (average: 50.54%), and TiO_2 from 0.16% to 6.50% (average: 2.78%). Associated trace elements include V (23–425 ppm; average: 111.21 ppm), Nb (8–92 ppm; average: 41.76 ppm), Zn (11–60 ppm; average: 21.15 ppm), and Ga (21–85 ppm; average: 38.69 ppm).
- h. Analytical results of pitting and trench samples ($n = 30$) indicate Al_2O_3 values ranging from 17.31% to 27.76% (average: 21.76%), Fe_2O_3 from 7.53% to 21.08% (average: 11.66%), SiO_2 from 41.68% to 61.33% (average: 51.55%), and TiO_2 from 1.0% to 1.5% (average: 1.2%). Total REE contents in BRS samples from laterite and bauxitic clay range from 56.47 ppm to 3238.22 ppm (average: 431.42 ppm), while regolith samples recorded Total REE values ranging from 40.47 ppm to 561.59 ppm (average: 334.43 ppm).
- i. In view of the above, the agency proposed the block for G4-stage exploration for bauxite/aluminous laterite and associated trace elements. The proposed work components include large-scale geological mapping, systematic surface sampling, and assessment of resources under the UNFC G4 category.
- j. The Committee reviewed the proposal, and the Chairman apprised the Committee that, as per the instructions of the Secretary, Ministry of Mines, the approved GSI project for F.S. 2026–27 has been dropped, and the project may now be taken up by NPEAs.
- k. In view of the above, the Committee suggested that the agency may submit the DPR.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
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1.	GSI	The proposed NMET block does not shows any overlapping with the earlier exploration blocks of GSI. However, one approved G4 item titled: Reconnaissance survey for aluminous laterite and its associated trace elements in and around Amonggiri, Dajugiri and Darekgiri areas, West Garo Hills district, Meghalaya, which was initially showing overlapping with the proposed NMET block has been dropped for FS 2026-27. There is no ongoing exploration in the proposed NMET block.
2.	MECL	NA
3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out any exploration / reconnaissance project in the proposed block and does not have any ongoing projects.
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	DMR Meghalaya not undertaken any exploration project in the proposed area. There are no ongoing exploration projects and no CL/ML granted for any major/minor mineral in the proposed block.
5.	NMEDT	The proposed block is not overlapping with NMEDT funded block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee approved the project in-principle and suggested the agency to bring DPR within 2 months.

Agenda 93.3.2. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Gold Mineralization in Kapista Block (112 sq km), District: Bankura, West Bengal [Implementing Agency: Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd]

- a. The proposed block falls within the Chotanagpur Gneissic Complex (CGC) in parts of Survey of India Toposheet No. 73M/03.
- b. GSI carried out regional geochemical mapping in Toposheet No. 73M/03 during F.S. 2010–12 as part of the NGCM programme, and reported anomalous gold values in stream sediment samples (20.28 ppb) and soil samples (4.13 ppb) falling within the proposed block area.
- c. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for gold and associated mineralization was carried out in and around the Rajbandh and Rajapathar areas of Bankura District, West Bengal (ERO-16641-2022).
- d. The pegmatitic veins, along with associated quartz veins, are inferred to be the principal source of mineralization in the area. Specks of sulphide mineralization have also been observed within the pegmatite and pegmatitic veins intruding the granite gneiss and quartzo-feldspathic schist.
- e. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for gold and associated mineralization was also carried out in and around the Durlabhpur and Gangajalghati areas of Bankura District, West Bengal (ERO-16639-2022).
- f. The presence of gold associated with sulphides has been confirmed through EPMA analysis. Geochemical analysis of gold and sulphides indicates that the gold is largely associated with iron–copper-bearing fluids. Stream sediment analysis also

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indicates enrichment of base metal mineralization in proximity to anorthosite and dolerite dykes.

- g. The agency apprised the Committee regarding the systematic approach for G4-stage exploration, which would include large-scale geological mapping and systematic surface sampling, mainly targeting gold-bearing lithologies for delineation of gold and associated mineralization in the area.
- h. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the matter had already been discussed during the 89th TCC-I meeting. At that time, the Committee had deferred the proposal and advised the agency to re-examine the leftover area after excluding the northern and eastern parts covered by Gondwana sediments. The Committee had also suggested that the agency collect bedrock samples and delineate the mineralized zone.
- i. The Committee enquired whether any samples had been collected from the proposed block area. The agency informed that five samples had been collected, of which three samples analysed <0.001 ppm Au, while two samples returned Au values of 0.003 ppm and 0.004 ppm, respectively. It was further informed that the TREE values were also not encouraging, and out of the five samples, only one sample recorded a TREE value exceeding 1000 ppm.
- j. The Committee evaluated the analytical results for gold and REE and observed that the values are not sufficiently encouraging for further evaluation.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	Partly (5%) overlap with GSI approved CMAP item of FS 2026-27 titled "Critical mineral assessment program for identification of potential zones of secondary enrichment of REE and other critical elements in laterite around Bhabanipur Saharjora block in the parts of Bankura District, West Bengal."
2.	MECL	No overlapping with MECL explored block and ongoing blocks
3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	To the north of the proposed block, existing mining lease area of BCCL & CIL. CMPDI is also looking for Potential coal prospects in the northern part. The proposed block is having areas of Gondwana basins.
5.	NMEDT	No overlap with ongoing or completed projects of NMEDT

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal, as the analytical results for gold and REE are not sufficiently encouraging for further evaluation.

Agenda 93.3.3. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for Gallium, Vanadium Bearing Titaniferous Bauxite in Sukhuma Block (86 sq.km), Jashpur District, Chhattisgarh

[Implementing Agency: Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd]

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- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64M/12 and exposes bauxite and lateritic cappings developed over basic volcanic rocks of the Deccan Traps (basalt).
- b. GSI carried out geological mapping on a 1:63,360 scale over the Pandrapat Plateau, covering an area of 320 sq. km, during F.S. 1971–72.
- c. During the course of geological mapping, good-quality bauxite deposits were identified in several parts of the plateau. The bauxite occurs within laterite caps developed over altered basalt, and the principal ore minerals contributing to Al_2O_3 are gibbsite and boehmite.
- d. Preliminary Exploration for Bauxite in the Pandrapat Highland, Raigarh District, Madhya Pradesh, was also carried out by GSI during F.S. 1992–94.
- e. Reconnaissance Survey for Bauxite Ore was also carried out in the Chundapat Block and Pandrapat Block during F.S. 2019–20 and F.S. 2019–21, respectively.
- f. G2-stage exploration was carried out in the Sardhapat Block, Chichili Block, and Pakhritola North Block during F.S. 2016–17, 2017–18, and 2020–22, respectively.
- g. Adjacent to the proposed block, GSI carried out a G3-stage exploration programme during F.S.P. 2016–17 in the Ghardega–Kurkuria Block. The investigation reported bauxite and aluminous laterites containing critical minerals with Al_2O_3 values ranging from 25.17% to 55.94%, SiO_2 from 0.92% to 11.26%, TiO_2 from 3.77% to 11.00%, Fe_2O_3 from 3.92% to 61.93%, Vanadium (V) from 550 ppm to 1586 ppm, and Gallium (Ga) from 13 ppm to 125 ppm.
- h. The agency apprised the Committee regarding the systematic approach for Preliminary Exploration, which would involve large-scale geological mapping, systematic surface sampling, and establishment of inferred mineral resources of bauxite, titanium, vanadium, and gallium in accordance with the UNFC classification under G4 stage (334).
- i. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the same proposal had already been discussed during the 89th TCC-I meeting. At that time, the Committee had deferred the proposal, as a major part of the proposed block was already under exploration at various stages, and had advised the agency to reassess the leftover area for feasibility of forest clearance before submitting a revised proposal.
- j. The agency informed that the proposed block had been modified after a field visit, and that five samples were collected from bauxite/laterite exposures. The analytical results showed Al_2O_3 values ranging from 15.58% to 30.34%, TiO_2 from 2.45% to 7.65%, V_2O_5 from 0.10% to 0.21% (equivalent to Vanadium values ranging from 543.69 ppm to 1169.25 ppm), and Gallium values ranging from 48.04 ppm to 64.83 ppm. The Committee, however, observed that a major part of the proposed area falls under forest cover and is occupied by granite gneiss.
- k. The Committee observed that the Al_2O_3 values obtained from the bedrock samples collected by the agency are not sufficiently encouraging for further evaluation.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	More than 50% overlapping found in the proposed Block with GSI previous works of 1992-94.
2.	MECL	No overlapping with MECL explored block and ongoing blocks

3.	AMD	NA
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	No ongoing proposal for exploration. Several blocks in the Jashpur area are on hold for auction due to local agitation.
5.	NMEDT	No overlap with ongoing or completed projects of NMEDT. However, G4-GM Bauxite block is partly overlapping with proposed block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal, as the analytical values of the samples collected from the proposed block are not encouraging.

**Agenda 93.3.4. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) in Mathupura Block (Area 38.55 sq. km.) in Jhansi District, Uttar Pradesh
[Implementing Agency: BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd]**

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 54O/4 and 54O/8 and exposes rocks of the Bundelkhand Gneissic Complex (BGC), comprising TTG gneisses, granites, migmatites, and multiple intrusive phases.
- b. Contacts between the granitoids and greenstone belt rocks—including mafic-ultramafic sequences, BIFs, and schists—create favourable rheological and geochemical contrasts that may act as structural and geochemical traps for mineralization. Numerous quartz reefs with associated pegmatites have also been reported from the BGC.
- c. Regional Geochemical Mapping of the Bundelkhand Granitoid Complex in parts of Toposheet Nos. 54O/4, 54O/6, 54O/8, and 54O/12 was carried out by GSI during F.S. 2014–15. Results of the NGCM study indicate that a couple of samples recorded cesium values above the 95th percentile. Further, out of nine samples falling within the proposed block, six samples recorded Li values above the 75th percentile.
- d. GSI also carried out Specialised Thematic Mapping (STM) for studying the geodynamic evolution of the Archean greenstone component of the Bundelkhand Craton along the Bundelkhand Tectonic Zone (BTZ) during F.S. 2017–19.
- e. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for REE mineralization in the Bundelkhand Granitoid Complex was carried out in the Bahadurpur Kalan–Sijari Buzurg area, covering parts of Jhansi and Hamirpur districts, Uttar Pradesh, during F.S.P. 2016–17.
- f. The REE mineralization was reported to be mainly associated with grey granites and pegmatite veins, with the maximum Σ REE value recorded in a bedrock sample being 1079.51 ppm in grey granite.
- g. In view of the above, the agency proposed the block for G4-stage exploration for REE and rare metals (RM). The proposed work components include geological mapping, geochemical sampling, ground geophysical surveys, and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G4 category.
- h. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the area had been proposed primarily on the basis of the reported REE occurrences in quartz reefs and pegmatite as recorded by GSI. The agency informed that the reported REE values

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range from 194 ppm to 700 ppm, which the Committee considered not sufficiently encouraging. It was also observed that the agency had not carried out any fieldwork in the proposed area.

- i. The Committee suggested that the agency undertake a field visit, collect samples, and submit a justified proposal supported by analytical results.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	No exploration work has been carried out in the proposed area. However, GSI has carried out STM in the area.
2.	MECL	MECL has not carried out any exploration in the proposed area.
3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out any exploration / reconnaissance project in the proposed block and does not have any ongoing projects
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	At present, no reconnaissance or detailed exploration project are being carried out. No CL or ML has been granted for major and minor minerals in the proposed block.
5.	NMEDT	No overlap with ongoing or completed projects of NMEDT

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee suggested that the agency undertake field visits, collect samples, and submit a justified proposal supported by analytical results. The proposal is approved in principle and the agency is suggested to bring DPR within 3 months.

Agenda 93.3.5. Reconnaissance survey (G4 Stage) for REE & Rare Metals, Udaypura Block (Area 61.46 sq. km), Tikamgarh District, Madhya Pradesh

[Implementing Agency: BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet Nos. 54K/16 and 54O/4 and exposes rocks of the Bundelkhand Gneissic Complex (BGC), comprising TTG gneisses, granites, migmatites, and multiple intrusive phases.
- b. Contacts between the granitoids and greenstone belt rocks—including mafic-ultramafic sequences, BIFs, and schists—create favourable rheological and geochemical contrasts that may act as structural and geochemical traps for mineralization. Numerous quartz reefs with associated pegmatites have also been reported from the BGC. The intrusive quartz reefs and mafic dykes are well marked and traceable in the area, forming linear elongated features trending ENE–WSW and NW–SE, respectively.
- c. As part of the Regional Geochemical Mapping of the Bundelkhand Granitoid Complex, GSI carried out investigations in parts of Toposheet Nos. 54O/4, 54O/6, 54O/8, and 54O/12 during F.S. 2014–15. The geochemical maps of the analysed elements indicate very limited anomalous zones, mostly confined to hornblende

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granite and structurally controlled by shear zones. These anomalies are only marginally above the threshold values for granite and are not considered significant from an exploration perspective.

- d. GSI also carried out Specialised Thematic Mapping (STM) for studying the geodynamic evolution of the Archean greenstone component of the Bundelkhand Craton along the Bundelkhand Tectonic Zone (BTZ) during F.S. 2017–19.
- e. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage) for gold and associated sulphide mineralization in the shear zones of the Bundelkhand Granitic Complex (BGC) in the Gotet area, Tikamgarh District, was carried out by GSI during F.S. 2016–17. A total of 100 bedrock samples and 50 pitting/trenching samples were collected and analysed for elemental concentrations of Ag, Au, Bi, Cu, Zn, Pb, Co, Mo, As, and Ni. The analytical results indicate that only 7% of the samples recorded Cu values exceeding 1000 ppm, 21% recorded Bi values greater than 1 ppm, and 25% recorded Ag values of 1 ppm.
- f. In view of the above, the agency proposed the block for G4-stage exploration for REE and rare metals (RM). The proposed work components include geological mapping, geochemical sampling, ground geophysical surveys, and exploratory drilling to assess the resources under the UNFC G4 category.
- g. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the area had been proposed mainly on the basis of the reported REE occurrences in quartz and pegmatite as documented by GSI. The agency informed that the reported REE values range from 194 ppm to 700 ppm, which the Committee considered not sufficiently encouraging. It was further observed that the agency had not carried out any fieldwork in the proposed area.
- h. The Committee suggested that the agency undertake a field visit, collect samples, and submit a justified proposal supported by analytical results.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	GSI has carried out exploration during FS. 2989-1990 & 2026-17 for Basemetal and Gold mineralization. The proposed block does not overlap with any ongoing exploration work.
2.	MECL	No overlap with any previous or ongoing exploration work.
3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out any exploration reconnaissance project in the proposed block and does not have any ongoing projects
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	At present, no reconnaissance or detailed exploration project are being carried out. No CL or ML has been granted for major and minor minerals in the proposed block.
5.	NMEDT	No overlap with ongoing or completed projects of NMEDT

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee suggested that the agency undertake field visits, collect samples, and submit a justified proposal supported by analytical results. The proposal is approved in principle and the agency is suggested to bring DPR within 3 months.

Agenda 93.3.6. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Titaniferous Vanadiferous Bauxite, Aluminous laterite & REE mineralization in Sindwari block, tehsil-Bagicha, District Jashpur, Chhattisgarh [Implementing Agency: Deepsar Mineral Explorer]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 64M/12 and exposes bauxite and lateritic cappings developed over basic volcanic rocks of the Deccan Traps (basalt).
- b. GSI carried out geological mapping on a 1:63,360 scale over the Pandrapat Plateau, covering an area of 320 sq. km, during F.S. 1971–72.
- c. During the course of geological mapping, good-quality bauxite deposits were identified in several parts of the plateau. The bauxite occurs within laterite caps developed over altered basalt, and the principal ore minerals contributing to Al_2O_3 are gibbsite and boehmite.
- d. Preliminary Exploration for Bauxite in the Pandrapat Highland, Raigarh District, Madhya Pradesh, was also carried out by GSI during F.S. 1992–94.
- e. Reconnaissance Survey for Bauxite Ore was also carried out in the Chundapat Block and Pandrapat Block during F.S. 2019–20 and F.S. 2019–21, respectively.
- f. G2-stage exploration was carried out in the Sardhapat Block, Chichili Block, and Pakhritola North Block during F.S. 2016–17, 2017–18, and 2020–22, respectively.
- g. During F.S. 2020–22, Mahanta et al. carried out G2-stage exploration for bauxite in the Chhichhli Block, involving 1062.40 m of drilling in 68 boreholes on a 200 m × 200 m grid pattern. Chemical analyses of Bed Rock Surface (BRS) samples indicated Al_2O_3 contents ranging from 48.07% to 59.57%, with SiO_2 values between 0.87% and 3.85% and MgO values between 0.01% and 0.06%.
- h. The bauxite also exhibited significant enrichment in gallium (61–118 ppm) and vanadium (676–1256 ppm). Core samples recorded Al_2O_3 values ranging from 21.11% to 58.99% (average: 33.62%), while SiO_2 values varied from 0.56% to 57.61% (average: 10.45%), reflecting variable lateritisation and bauxitisation profiles.
- i. The agency apprised the Committee regarding the systematic approach for Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage), which would involve large-scale geological mapping, systematic surface sampling, and establishment of inferred mineral resources of titaniferous vanadiferous bauxite, aluminous laterite, and REE-bearing zones, in accordance with the UNFC classification under G4 stage (334).
- j. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the entire area has already been covered by GSI. The Committee suggested that the agency examine the feasibility of taking up G3-stage exploration in the area. It was further advised that the agency undertake a field visit, collect samples, and present the analytical data.

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Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	100% overlapping found in the proposed Block with GSI previous works (FS: 1992-94)
2.	MECL	No overlapping with MECL explored block and ongoing blocks
3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out worked any exploration / reconnaissance project in the proposed block.
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	No ongoing proposal for exploration. No QL/ML/CL sanctioned in the proposed block..
5.	NMEDT	No overlap with ongoing or completed projects of NMEDT.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal and suggested that the agency examine the feasibility of taking up G3-stage exploration, undertake a field visit, collect samples, and present the analytical data.

Agenda 93.3.7. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) For Tin Tantalum and Niobium bearing Pegmatites at Western Periphery of Baster-Koraput Pegmatite Belt, District Dantewada, Chhattisgarh, (Bachel - Ganjanar Block).

[Implementing Agency: Deepsar Mineral Explorer]

- a. The proposed block falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 65F/06 and exposes rocks of the Bastar-Koraput Pegmatite Belt (BKP), which is well known for tin occurrences.
- b. The pegmatites of the BKP are typically associated with tin and rare metal mineralization such as Nb, Ta, Be, and Li, occurring in the form of cassiterite, columbite-tantalite, beryl, lepidolite, and amblygonite.
- c. Based on studies of over 200 pegmatites in the Tongpal-Mundval-Dammoguda sector, the pegmatites of the BKP have been characterized in terms of their mode of occurrence, size, shape, internal zoning, and mineralization.
- d. The present study area falls within the Bachel-Degalras sector, which lies in the northwestern part of the BKP.
- e. It was reported that, due to administrative constraints and naxalite activity, further exploration programmes in the area were discontinued. The last known work in the BKP was reportedly carried out by GSI during F.S. 1981-82, after which exploration activities were largely discontinued.
- f. A few independent researchers have also undertaken studies in the area to establish tin mineralization within the BKP. However, most of the exploration work for tin has been concentrated in the central and eastern parts of the belt, while the western part remains relatively unexplored.
- g. The agency apprised the Committee regarding the systematic approach for Reconnaissance Survey (G4 stage), which would involve large-scale geological mapping, systematic surface sampling, and establishment of inferred mineral resources in accordance with the UNFC classification under G4 stage (334).

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- h. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the proposal lacks clarity regarding the status of auctionable blocks in the area. It was further noted that comments from the State DGM were not available.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1.	GSI	100% overlapping with auctioned block 43 Area 8 7492 BACHELI - 11C.
2.	MECL	No overlapping with MECL explored block and ongoing blocks
3.	AMD	AMD has not carried out worked any exploration / reconnaissance project in the proposed block.
4.	State DMG/DGM/CGM	NA
5.	NMEDT	Several mining leases are present at boundary of the proposed area. Mining lease of Tin is also present inside the proposed block. There is no overlapping with NMEDT funded block.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal and suggested that the agency consult DGM-Chhattisgarh regarding the status of auctionable blocks and existing mining leases in the area.

93.4: Review of Ongoing Special Studies Project

Agenda 93.4.1. Undertaking of Geo-chemical Analysis of mine samples by IBM through NMET fund

[Implementing Agency: IBM]

- a. IBM informed that the project was sanctioned on 09th May, 2025. The report of the project was submitted on 15.12.2025.
- b. The agency informed that the project envisaged geochemical analysis of 66 radicals/elements, including major elements, base metals, critical and strategic elements (including REE), platinum group elements, gold, and silver.
- c. It was informed that, under the earlier Schedule of Charges (SoC), silver (Ag) was not explicitly specified and was subsumed under the category "Precious Metals & Stones"; however, in the latest SoC (December 2025), silver has been explicitly included along with gold for analysis through the fire assay method.
- d. The agency further informed that silver (Ag) was analyzed along with gold (Au) during the course of the study through the fire assay method. The analysis for silver was carried out, in addition to IBM, by JNARDDC, Nagpur.
- e. It was also apprised that JNARDDC, Nagpur has levied an additional charge of ₹421 per sample for silver (Ag) analysis, in accordance with NMEDT provisions.
- f. In view of the above, the agency sought ex-post facto approval for analysis of 213 samples for silver (Ag) as an additional element, amounting to ₹1,05,814/- (including applicable taxes), under Clause 4.1.15(b) of the NMEDT SoC 2020–21, within the approved project cost and without any additional financial implication.
- g. The committee deliberated the issue and agreed for ex-post facto approval for analysis of 213 samples for silver (Ag) as an additional element, amounting to ₹1,05,814/- (including applicable taxes).

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended for ex-post facto approval of PSC, NMEDT for analysis of 213 samples for silver (Ag) as an additional element. The project is also recommended to PSC, NMEDT for revision of cost from Rs. 1280.49 lakh to Rs. 818.57 lakh with a change in amount of (-) Rs. 461.92 lakh (~36.07 % de-escalation) as per Annexure 3.

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Revised cost sheet for Undertaking of Geo-chemical Analysis of mine samples by IBM through NMET fund										Annexure 3
S.No	Item of Work	Unit	SoC Item Code (2021)	NMETD Approved quantum and cost			Revised quantum and cost			Remarks
				Oty.	Rate	Value (Rs.)	Oty.	Rate	Value (Rs.)	
1	Sampling Man Days- Sampler (Core sample) Without Labour charges	day	1.5.2	418	5100	2131800	265	5100	₹ 13,51,500.00	
2	4 Labour/ Samper (Charges of Unskilled Worker)	day	5.7	167 2	541	904552	888	832*	₹ 7,38,816.00	*Amount as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher
							172	541*	₹ 93,052.00	
3	Estimation of major oxides by XRF technique	per sample	4.1.15a	334 0	4200	14028000	2090	4200	₹ 87,78,000.00	
4	14 REE elements/radicals by ICP-MS	per sample	4.1.13	334 0	5380	17969200	2090	5380	₹ 1,12,44,200.00	
5	34 trace elements by ICP-AES/ICPMS	per sample	4.1.14	334 0	7731	25821540	1839	7731	₹ 1,42,17,309.00	#33 elements were analyzed
							251	7504 #	₹ 18,83,504.00	

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6	Gold by fire assay technique	per sample	4.1.5a	3340	2380	7949200	2376	2380	₹ 56,54,880.00	
7	PGE (ICP-MS,Ni-S Fire assay technique	per sample	4.1.5d	3340	11800	39412000	2456	11800	₹ 2,89,80,800.00	
8	Fixed Carbon in Graphite	per sample	4.1.16	100	3000	300000	78	3000	₹ 2,34,000.00	
9	Geochemical analysis for Silver (Ag) #	per sample	4.1.15b				213	421	₹ 89,673.00	Approval Sought
Total						₹ 10,85,16,292			₹ 7,32,65,734.00	
GST @ 18%						₹ 1,95,32,933			₹ 1,31,87,832.12	
							Total		₹ 8,64,53,566.12	
									₹ 45,96,821.00	Deduction by IBM in payment to JNARDDC as the analytical results were not provided in scheduled time as per MoU
				Amount Sanctioned		₹ 12,80,49,225	Final Amount Utilized		₹ 8,18,56,745.12	

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93.5: Review of Ongoing Exploration Project & Timeline Extension

Agenda 93.5.1. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Limestone in Revuru Block, Suryapet District, Telangana

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 1st PSC Meeting held on 9th October, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th November, 2025 with timeline of 8 months (up to 09.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 70,84,252/-.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the Geological Report has been peer reviewed and all the comments and suggestions of peer reviewer has been duly complied with.
- c. The agency informed that Preliminary Exploration (G3 stage) carried out over an area of 4.87 sq. km in the Revuru Block has established resources of cement-grade limestone and blendable-grade limestone in accordance with the MEMC Rules, 2015 (as amended in 2021).
- d. The Geological Gross in-situ resources, as estimated by the polygonal method, are 510.64 million tonnes of cement-grade limestone and 19.82 million tonnes of blendable-grade limestone.
- e. Estimated resources are considered under 333 category as per UNFC nomenclature.
- f. The comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- g. The committee reviewed the work and agreed for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report (GR).

Agenda 93.5.2. 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/- . The timeline extension upto 31.03.2026 was approved by PSC in its 4th meeting.
- b. The agency informed that the Geological Report has been submitted to the peer reviewer, and the review comments are awaited.
- c. The Committee opined that the project would be reviewed after the agency submits compliance to the peer reviewer's comments.
- d. The Committee recommended a timeline extension of one month for submission of the Geological Report (GR) after compliance of the peer reviewer's comments by the agency.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension of 1 month, upto 30.04.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

Agenda 93.5.3. Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Glauconite in Mudhan-Khatiya block (129.00 sq. km), Kachchh District, Gujarat

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 37th EC Meeting held on 23rd September, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 22nd October, 2024 with timeline of 10 months (up to 21.08.2025) and approved cost was INR 1,61,65,384/-. The timeline was extended upto 28.02.2026 and 31.03.2026 by PSC in its 1st and 6th meeting respectively.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the Geological Report has been peer reviewed and all the comments and suggestions of peer reviewer has been duly complied with.
- c. The Geological Gross resources of glauconitic sandstone, as estimated by the polygonal method, are at 178.70 million tonnes, while the net in-situ resource is 142.96 million tonnes, both with an average grade of 4.10% K₂O at a 3% K₂O cut-off grade.
- d. The comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- e. The committee reviewed the work and agreed for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report (GR).

Agenda 93.5.4. Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Glauconite in Ambara West Block Kachchh District, Gujarat

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved 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/-. Timeline was extended upto 31.03.2026 during 4th meeting of PSC.
- b. The agency informed that their GR is ready for peer review.
- c. Peer Reviewer was nominated by NMEDT for review of GR, however, the peer reviewer denied to review the GR citing some reasons.
- d. The nomination of peer reviewer by NMEDT is under process.
- e. The committee approved timeline extension upto 30.04.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension of 1 month, upto 30.04.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

Agenda 93.5.5. Preliminary exploration (G-3 stage) for limestone in Pedaveedu West Block, Suryapet District, Telangana

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[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved by Chairman, EC on 25.06.2025 and ratified in the 43rd EC Meeting held on 14th August, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 2nd July, 2025 with timeline of 7 months (up to 01.02.2026) and approved cost was INR 88,95,875/-. Timeline was extended upto 30.04.2026 by PSC in its 5th meeting.
- b. The agency apprised the Committee that the Geological Report has been prepared and a request for nomination of a peer reviewer has been submitted. However, the peer reviewer for the Geological Report has not been nominated so far.
- c. The committee suggested NMEDT secretariat to nominate peer reviewer and instructed the agency to come after the GR has been peer reviewed.
- d. The Committee suggested that the NMEDT Secretariat to nominate a peer reviewer at earliest and instructed the agency to come again for review after the Geological Report (GR) has been peer reviewed.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee instructed the agency to come again for review after the Geological Report (GR) has been peer reviewed

**Agenda 93.5.6. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Polymetals (Cu-Pb-Zn & Au-Ag) in Amritpur area (56.62 Sq.km), Nainital District, Uttarakhand
[Implementing Agency: MECL]**

- a. The committee was informed that the project was recommended in 41st EC meeting held on 11th March, 2025. The sanction order was issued on 19th March, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (i.e. upto 18.01.2026) with approved cost was Rs. 1,07,97,522/-. Timeline was extended upto 17.04.2026 during 6th meeting of PSC.
- b. The agency informed that the GR has been peer reviewed and all the comments and suggestions of peer reviewer has been duly complied with.
- c. The comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- d. The committee reviewed the work and agreed for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report (GR).

**Agenda 93.5.7. General exploration (G2 stage) for molybdenum in Vellakkal Central Block, Uttangarai Sector, Haru-Uttangarai Belt, District-Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu
[Implementing Agency: MECL]**

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 38th EC Meeting held on 29th November, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 12th December, 2024 with timeline of 15 months (up to 11.03.2026) and approved cost was INR 11,21,17,537/- Timeline was extended upto 30.09.2026 by PSC in its 7th meeting.
- b. The agency informed that Geological Mapping (1.1 sq.km) on 1:2000 scale is completed and drilling of 31 Boreholes out of assigned target of 35 Borehole has been completed. Drilling meterage of 5096 m, out of assigned target of 6200 m, has been completed.

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- c. The committee was apprised that mineralised zone has been intersected in all drilled boreholes, while the ore zone at 100 ppm Mo/W cut-off has been intersected in all boreholes except MVCM-20, over a strike length of about 1.1 km.
- d. At 100 ppm cut-off, the ore zone has been intersected in 19 out of 23 boreholes for Mo and 18 out of 23 boreholes for W, with thickness varying from 0.50 m to 6.70 m and grades ranging from 106.36 ppm to 564.21 ppm.
- e. The committee was further apprised that Forest Clearance for three bore holes are awaited. The agency informed that letter regarding permission for drilling of bore holes falling in Vellakkal Reserve Forest was submitted on 12.08.2025 and again on 13.10.2025. Currently the application is pending at O/o DFO, Hosur Tamil Nadu.
- f. The agency proposed for drilling of 3rd Level BH (PBH-30).
- g. The committee reviewed the progress of work and enquired if it is falling under Forest area.
- h. The committee was informed that the proposed 3rd level BH is an inclined BH and it does not come under forest area.
- i. The committee agreed for drilling of 3rd level BH.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for drilling of 3rd level borehole (PBH-30).

Agenda 93.5.8. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Aluminous Laterite, Vanadium and associated minerals (V, Ga & REE) in Kallar Block, Kasaragod District, Kerala

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 43rd EC Meeting held on 14th August, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 8th September, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 07.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,22,71,923/-.
- b. Geological and structural mapping (1:4,000 scale) along with bedrock sampling (BRS) has been carried out by MECL, delineating bauxite and aluminous laterite horizons within the block.
- c. During Phase-I exploration, bauxite and aluminous laterite mineralization has been identified; 50 BRS samples have been collected and are awaiting analytical results.
- d. The agency proposed systematic drilling to delineate viable mineralized zones and upgrade the resources to G3 level.
- e. A total of 9 boreholes, each of 35 m depth and spaced at 400 m intervals, are planned to target the persistent bauxite and aluminous laterite horizons within the mineralized zone.
- f. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and opined that, since the analytical results are still awaited, the drilling plan cannot be approved at this stage.
- g. The committee suggested that the agency present drilling plan for review in the next TCC meeting after receipt of the analytical results.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee suggested that the agency present drilling plan for review in the next TCC meeting after receipt of the analytical results.

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Agenda 93.5.9. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Aluminous Laterite, Vanadium and Associated Minerals in Kolathur Block, Kasaragod district, Kerala

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 20th June, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 19.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,80,99,002/-.
- b. Geological and structural mapping (1:4,000 scale) has been carried out by MECL in the block area, along with pit and bedrock sampling, resulting in the delineation of bauxite and aluminous laterite horizons.
- c. During the course of surface geochemical sampling, a total of 56 pit samples have been collected and analysed.
- d. During Phase-I exploration, bauxite and aluminous laterite mineralization has been identified in the block area.
- e. Analytical results indicate Al_2O_3 values ranging from 22.73% to 45.93%, Fe_2O_3 from 12.57% to 48.78%, SiO_2 from 12.57% to 32.61%, P_2O_5 from 0.08% to 0.50%, TiO_2 from 0.97% to 2.49%, and LOI from 15.18% to 20.90%.
- f. Based on the analytical results, all samples fall under aluminous laterite (>20% Al_2O_3), while one sample qualifies as bauxitic material (>30% Al_2O_3 and <7% SiO_2).
- g. Based on the analytical results received so far, drilling of 20 boreholes have been proposed in the aluminous laterite zones.
- h. The committee reviewed the progress of work and approved drilling plan for 20 BH.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee approved drilling plan of 20 boreholes and instructed agency to initiate drilling work.

Agenda 93.5.10. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Dongargaon-Kasara Block (5.59 km²), District-Yavatmal, Maharashtra

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL informed the committee that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 23rd June, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (i.e up to 22.04.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,22,58,051/-.
- b. MECL apprised the committee that Geological mapping of 6.06 sq.km. on 1:4000 scale has been completed. The majority of the area is covered by soil and with scanty exposures of limestone and dolomite belonging to Putnur-Mangurda Formation of Penganga Group.
- c. The agency informed that drilling of 9 BH, each of 50 m depth was approved by TCC-1 during its 82nd meeting.
- d. The agency informed that forest clearance was applied on 08.09.2025 and obtained on 09.12.2025; however, drilling could not commence earlier due to lack of accessibility (standing cotton crop) till the first week of March 2026.
- e. It was further informed that the rig was deployed on 12.03.2026 and drilling commenced on 13.03.2026, with one borehole completed to date. The work was

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temporarily halted from 18.03.2026 to 24.03.2026 by FDCM due to jurisdictional issues and resumed on 25.03.2026 after obtaining approval from DCF, Pandharkawada.

- f. The agency sought timeline extension of four months, i.e., upto 22.08.2026.
- g. The committee reviewed the progress of work and agreed for timeline extension upto 31.07.2026

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 31.07.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for completion of drilling and submission of GR.

Agenda 93.5.11. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for aluminous laterite and associated critical minerals in Govindagude & Sudigudde block, Udupi District, Karnataka

[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]

- a. The agency informed that the project was during 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 6 months (up to 09.08.2025) and approved cost was INR 44,24,191/-. Timeline extension upto 31.10.2025, 31.01.2026 and 31.03.2026 was approved during 79th TCC-1 and 3rd PSC and 5th PSC meetings respectively.
- b. The agency informed the committee that forest clearance has not been received and hence pitting and drilling components of quantum of targets are still pending.
- c. The agency informed that the forest clearance proposal for the project in Kundapura Division, Udupi District, Karnataka has been submitted, and all required documents/maps have been furnished. The matter has already been processed through field inspections, the District Task Force meeting, and has also received approval from the District Collector, Udupi.
- d. The agency further apprised that, as per the prevailing guidelines, the authority to accord permission for survey and exploratory drilling presently lies with the PCCF Office, Bengaluru, and the proposal is now pending submission by DFO, Kundapura to the PCCF, Karnataka for grant of forest clearance.
- e. The committee discussed the forest clearance issue in detail and suggested the agency to pursue the matter seriously with competent authorities.
- f. The committee agreed upon extending the timeline upto 31.07.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension of 4 months, upto 31.07.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for acquiring forest clearance, completion of work and submission of GR.

Agenda 93.5.12. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Gold & assoc. minerals in Sirigeri Block (2 sq.km.), Ballari district, Karnataka

[Implementing Agency: DGM Karnataka]

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- 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, 14.12.2025 and 28.02.2026 in 39th, 43rd EC and 4th PSC meeting respectively. Timeline extension was further extended upto 31.03.2026 during 7th meeting of PSC.
- c. The project was discussed in 92nd TCC-1 meeting, wherein, the committee agreed for submission of GR. In the same meeting, the agency was instructed to present cost revision in upcoming TCC for discussion.
- d. The cost incurred on project was discussed and the cost sheet was modified accordingly.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The project is recommended to PSC, NMEDT for revision of cost from Rs. 345.19 lakh to Rs. 299.84 lakh with a change in amount of (-) Rs. 45.35 lakh (~13.14 % de-escalation) as per Annexure 4.

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Revised cost sheet of Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Gold & assoc. minerals in Sirigeri Block (2 sq.km.), Ballari district, Karnataka

S.N	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMET SoC			Approved Cost		Work Executed Cost		Agency work Carried out	Remarks
			SoC Item No	Work/Activity description	Rates as per SoC	Qty	Amount (Rs)	Completed	Cost		
A	Geological Mapping (1: 2000, 02.00 sqkm)										
i	Geologist Party days (1) -Field Both Mapping and drilling	Days	1.2		11,000	200	22,00,000	170	18,70,000	Inhouse	
ii	Geologist Party days (1) -HQ	Days	1.2		9,000	50	4,50,000	50	4,50,000	Inhouse	
iii	Labour Charges (2 labours)	Days	5.7		504	400	2,01,600	340	1,77,902	Inhouse	Labours used at the time of Mapping = 59 mandays * 2 labours * Rs 504 per day (NMET Approved cost) = Rs 59,472/- Labours used at the time of Trenching = 46 mandays * 2 labours * Rs 520 per day (Karnataka state wages 2024-25) = Rs

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												47,840/- .Labours used at the time of Drilling = 65 mandays * 2 labours * Rs 543 per day (Karnataka state wages 2025-26) = Rs 67,600/-.
iv	Trenching		Per Cu m	2.1.1		3,330	400	13,32,000	384	12,78,720	Outsource (MECL)	
Total (A)								41,83,600		37,76,622		
B	Survey works											
i	Demarcation of lease boundary and fixation of borehole and determination of coordinates and RL (Including charges deployed for the work) by DGPS		Per point of observation	1.6.2		19,200	10	1,92,000	8	1,53,600	Inhouse	
ii	Survey Party days (1 party) without Labour for contouring (2m interval)		one Surveyor per day	1.6.1a		8,300	50	4,15,000	50	4,15,000	Inhouse	
iii	Labour Charges (4 labours)		Labour day	5.7		504	200	1,00,800	200	1,00,800	Inhouse	
Total (B)								7,07,800		6,69,400		
C	Ground Gophysical Survey- out source											

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i	IP cum resistivity, S P, Magnetic for 2 Sq.Km		Per Line KM	3.4b	per 10 line Km	14,48,693	40	57,94,772	4	57,94,772	Outsource (MECL)	
ii	IP Geophysical for 23 Sq.km		Per Line KM	3.4a	per 10 line Km	69,950	60	41,97,000	60	41,97,000	Outsource (MECL)	
Total (C)								99,91,772		99,91,772		
D	Drilling- out source											
i	Surface drilling (01 rig- Hard rock- NQ)		m	2.2.1.4 a		11,500	690	79,35,000	467.40	53,75,100.00	Outsource (MECL)	
ii	Core preservation		m	5.3		1,590	350	5,56,500	350	5,56,500	Outsource (MECL)	
Total (D)								84,91,500		59,31,600		
E	Sampling /Other geological work											
i	Sampler charges		Days	1.5.2		5,100	90	4,59,000	71	3,62,100	Inhouse	
ii	Labour charges (4 nos)		Days	5.7		504	360	1,81,440	284	1,49,532	Inhouse	Labours used at the time of BRS sampling = 07 mandays * 4 labours * Rs 504 per day (NMET Approved cost) = Rs 14,112/-. Labours used at the time of Trench Sampling = 39 mandays * 4 labours *

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v		Gold (Fire Assay)	BRS Samples	per samples	4.1.15a		2,380	5	11,900	5	10,500		cost of HGML-2100 (excluding 18% GST) per sample.
vi			Borehole samples	per samples	4.1.15a		2,380	25	59,500	16	33,600		
vii		Selected samples (ICP-MS method)	34 elements	per samples	4.1.14		7,731	50	3,86,550	26	2,01,006	Inhouse	
viii		Preparation of thin section		per samples	4.3.1		2,353	20	47,060	11	25,883	Outsource (MECL)	
ix	Petrological samples (Bh Core Samples)	Polished Section		per samples	4.3.2		1,549	10	15,490	7	10,843	Outsource (MECL)	
x		Study of Thin and polished section		per samples	4.3.4		4,232	30	1,26,960	18	76,176	Outsource (MECL)	
xi	Bulk density	Core samples		per samples	4.1		3,540	2	7,080	-	-		
Total (F)									21,53,940		15,87,768		
Total (A+B+C+D+E+F)									2,61,69,052		2,24,68,794		
G	Peer review of report			lump sum	MOM office Memorandum dated 12 july 2023		30,000	1	30,000		30,000		
H	Preparation of Exploration Proposal				as per 28th EC meeting	2% of approved project Cost subject to maximum of 5 Lakhs.			5,23,381		4,49,376		
I	Exploration Report			no	5.2 iii	For the projects exceeding Rs. 150 Lakhs but		1	7,50,000		7,50,000		

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					less than 300 Lakhs: A Minimum of Rs. 7.5 lakhs or 3% of the work whichever is more						
J	Tendering process cost			2.3	one time, in case of outsourced components of project work. 2% of the approved project cost or 5 lakh whichever is lower will be paid exploration agency		1	4,01,614		3,82,010	
K	operational charges.(Reimbursement of cost in case of outsourced components of project work)			6 (iii)	Cost of outsourced components of the project work will be reimbursed as per actuals. In addition, 8.75 lakh plus 5 percent on the balance amount of outsourced cost in excess of 1 crore will be paid to exploration			13,79,036		13,30,024	

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					agency towards operational charges. maximum ceiling of operational charges is 15 lakh.							
L	Grand Total							2,92,53,083		2,54,10,204		
M	GST 18%							52,65,555		45,73,837		
N	Grand Total with GST (18%)							3,45,18,638		2,99,84,041		
	Or say in Lakhs							345.19		299.84		
Not e :												
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 execution of the project by NEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.											
4	Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.											
5	Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.											
6	All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency.											

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Agenda 93.5.13. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Vanadium and Titanium in Magnetite bearing sand in the beach/dune sands along the Saurashtra coast, Gujarat

[Implementing Agency: Geo Marine Solutions Private 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 15 months (up to 29.03.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,70,37,019/-.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the report has been submitted for peer review on 18.03.2026.
- c. The comments from peer reviewer is awaited.
- d. The agency, hence, sought timeline extension for circulation of Geological Report.
- e. The committee agreed upon timeline extension.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension of 1 month, upto 30.04.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

Agenda 93.5.14. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Copper and associated Mineralization in Govindpur Block (0.83 sq.km.), Chandrapur District, Maharashtra

[Implementing Agency: Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The agency informed that the project was approved in the 36th EC Meeting held on 29th July, 2024. The sanction order was issued on 21st August, 2024 with timeline of 8 months (up to 20.04.2025) and approved cost was INR 1,26,07,813/-. Timeline extension upto 20.07.2025 and 31.10.2025 was approved in 76th TCC-I and 1st PSC meetings respectively.
- b. The item was reviewed in the 83rd TCC meeting, and the project was recommended for pre-closure due to non-receipt of Forest Clearance (FC). However, the recommendation of 81st TCC was not approved during 3rd PSC meeting and the agency was suggested to pursue the forest clearance issue along with DGM Maharashtra. During 3rd PSC timeline extension upto 31.03.2026 was approved for completion of work.
- c. Pursuant to instruction of 3rd PSC, the agency has sought permission to complete the drilling during 88th meeting of TCC-1, wherein the committee has approved drilling of 2nd Borehole and recommended the agency to propose 3rd bore hole before TCC, only after the results of 2nd borehole is received.
- d. However, the agency informed that clearance was sought from Forest Department and DCF also visited the field area. It was communicated that the area falls in ESZ and lies in the 1 km buffer zone of Tadoba- Andhari Tiger Reserve.
- e. The committee deliberated the issue and opined that the pre-closure of project may be recommended.
- f. The committee also instructed agency to submit all the correspondences made with competent authorities chronologically to NMEDT secretariat.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended pre-closure of the project and instructed the agency to submit to the NMEDT Secretariat all correspondences made with the competent authorities regarding forest clearance, arranged chronologically.

Agenda 93.5.15. Preliminary Exploration, G3 (Phase-I) For Ni, Co, PGE and associated minerals in J.C. Pura Mafic-Ultramafic Schist Belt near Rampura and Gollarahatti Block, Hassan District, Karnataka (Block area- 2 sq. km.)

[Implementing Agency: Geoexpore Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. GeoExpOre informed that the project was approved in the 29th EC Meeting held on 31st March, 2023. The Sanction Order was issued on 17th April, 2023 with timeline of 10 months (i.e up to 16.02.2024) and approved cost was INR 82,87,108/-.
- b. TCC in its 84th meeting has recommended surrender of project owing to intense local agitation. The recommendation was deferred in 3rd meeting of PSC with an instruction to the agency to submit a certificate issued from State DMG that the work could not be completed due to local agitation.
- c. The committee instructed the agency to comply with the instructions of PSC.
- d. The committee approved the timeline extension upto 30.04.2026 for regularizing the project and submitting the certificate sought by PSC.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee approved the timeline extension up to 30.04.2026 for regularization of the project and submission of the certificate sought by PSC.

Agenda 93.5.16. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for limestone in Chokkanathapuram Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu

[Implementing Agency: M/s. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions]

- a. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 8 months (up to 09.10.2025) and approved cost was INR 2,24,59,105/-. Timeline was extended upto 31.03.2026 in 5th PSC meeting.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the report has been submitted to peer reviewer and the comments from reviewer is awaited.
- c. The agency sought timeline extension for submission of GR.
- d. The committee agreed for timeline extension.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension of 1 month, upto 30.04.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

Agenda 93.5.17. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for limestone in Kulumur Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu

[Implementing Agency: M/s. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions]

- a. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th

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February, 2025 with timeline of 8 months (up to 09.10.2025) and approved cost was INR 2,25,09,644/-. Timeline was extended upto 31.03.2026 in 5th PSC meeting.

- b. The agency apprised the committee that the report has been submitted to peer reviewer and the comments from reviewer is awaited.
- c. The agency sought timeline extension for submission of GR.
- d. The committee agreed for timeline extension.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension of 1 month, upto 30.04.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

**Agenda 93.5.18. (Addl.) Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite in Nittadgi Block, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka
[Implementing Agency: PRB InfraProjects Pvt. Ltd.]**

- a. M/s PRB Infraprojects Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 39th EC Meeting held on 24th January, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 09.02.2026) and approved cost was Rs. 1,40,64,245/-. Timeline extension upto 31.03.2026 was approved in 5th meeting of PSC.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the project was reviewed in 88th meeting of TCC-I, wherein issue regarding forest clearance was discussed.
- c. The agency further informed the committee that Forest Clearance permission was denied by PCCF as the area lies in the ESZ. The project cannot be executed further.
- d. The Committee instructed the agency to submit, in the next meeting of TCC-I, all communications made with the competent authorities—namely the Forest Department and DMG—arranged in chronological order. The matter will be further deliberated in the presence of DMG, Karnataka.
- e. The decision regarding closure of project is kept in abeyance, till all the correspondences are discussed in upcoming TCC.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee advised the agency to bring all the correspondences made in regard with forest clearance with competent authorities for further discussion in next meeting of TCC-I.

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Annexure -5

List of participants who attended the 93rd Meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committee (TCC-I) of NMEDT held on 27th and 30th March, 2026 through video conferencing mode

S.no	Name	Designation	Email ID	Contact No	Organization
1	Dr. S. Ravi	Dy. Director General, GSITI, Hyderabad	s.ravi1@gsi.gov.in	9441138834	Chairman, TCC-1
2	Shri. I.R. Kirmani	ADG (Retd.), GSI	irkirmani@yahoo.com	9414014723	Member TCC-1
3	Shri. M. Mohan	Dy. Director General (Retd.), GSI	mariappan.mohan@gmail.com	9423686547	Member TCC-1
4	Shri. K. Koteswara Rao	Dy. Director General (Retd.), GSI	kkrao1957@gmail.com	9000117969	Member TCC-1
5	Dr. S. K. Kulshrestha	DDG-RMH-III, NER, GSI, Shillong	s.kulshrestha@gsi.gov.in	9413330658	Member TCC-1
6	Shri A. R. Mukundhan	Regional Director, AMD, South Central Region	mukuagaram@rediffmail.com	6303606347	Member TCC-1
7	Dr. E.V.S.S.K. Babu	Scientist (G), NGRI	evsskbabu@ngri.res.in	9441535852	Member TCC-1
8	Sh. S K Adhikari	Chief Mining Geologist, IBM, Nagpur	skadhikari@ibm.gov.in	7588690545	Member TCC-1
9	Smt. Vandana	Cost Accounts Officer, RSAS, Bangalore, GSI	vandana@gsi.in	8660939235	Member TCC-1
10	Shri S Dhanendran	Director, GSITI & Member Secretary, TCC-I	s.dhanendran@gsi.gov.in	9944882204	Member Secretary TCC-1
11	Sh. Shrikant Sharma	HoD Exploration, MECL	gm-exploration@mecl.gov.in	-	MECL
12	Mr. Subrata Sarkar	V. P. (Projects & Planning)	subrata.sarkar@gemcokati.com	7044208900	Gemcokati Exploration Private limited
13	Navneet Sharma	AGM Geology	Navneet.sharma@maheshwaraee.com	-	MMPL Pvt Ltd
14	Moulipriya Bhakta	Dy. Manager Geology	moulipriya.bhakta@maheshwaraee.com	-	MMPL Pvt Ltd
15	Dr. Raj Narayan Yadav	Consultant (Geology)	impcn.kolkata@gmail.com	9831107623	Indian Mine Planners & Consultants
16	Dileep Kumar J	Sr. Geologist	dileep.kumar@kartikay.co.in	8986919711	Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Private Limited
17	A.C. Dinesh	CTO	oed@geomarinolutions.in	90385 34560	Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

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17	P. Praveen Kumar:	Director	praveen@geomarinesolutions.in	82773 63919	Geo Marine solutions Pvt. Ltd. Mangaluru
18	Guruprasad S.	Sr.Geologist	gurups@geomarinesolutions.in	9745526250	Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
19	Dr. Neeraj Shrivastava	Project Coordinator	info@egcipl.com	9352239829	Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited
20	Dr. Shiv Kumar Lakhara	TAE-RSG	info@egcipl.com	8003590552	Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited
21	Shekhar Joshi	-	bhushilpmines@gmail.com	9423105594	Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt. Ltd. Nagpur
22	Dr. Ifthikhar Ahmed	-	ifthiahmed@gmail.com	9442278601	M/s. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions
23	Prembabu	TAE (Geo)	prembabu_singh@yahoo.com	9422477401	PRB InfraProjects Pvt. Ltd.
24	Arif Khan	Director	oceandrillingaea@gmail.com	7023511786	M/s Ocean Drilling and Exploration Private Limited
25	Sumitra Bisht	Geologist	-	-	M/s Ocean Drilling and Exploration Private Limited
26	Saikat Bhattacharyya	Sr. Consultant	saikat@mapl.in	-	MAPL
27	Venkat Meenakshi Subramaniam	Technical area expert and principal consultant	Venkat.M@bmrcgroup.com	-	BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd
28	Swarnima Yadav	Geologist	Swarnima.yadav@bmrcgroup.com	-	BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd
29	Sh Pradeep Agarwal	CEO & Proprietor	-	-	Deepsar Mineral Explorer
30	R K Sharma	Project coordinator	-	-	Deepsar Mineral Explorer
31	Sh. A K Kant	Project coordinator	-	-	Deepsar Mineral Explorer
32	Sh. S Srivastava	Technical Area Expert	-	-	Deepsar Mineral Explorer
33	Vikas Seth	Junior Mining Geologist	-	9559408670	IBM
34	Soma rama murthy	TAE	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	9490685131.	Critical Mineral Trackers
35	HD Nagaraja	Tech Expert	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	8008558555	Critical Mineral Trackers
36	K.Nageswara Rao	TAE	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	7893847742	Critical Mineral Trackers
37	Representatives from Geoexpore Pvt. Ltd				
38	Representatives from DGM, Karnataka				

39	Representatives from DGM Rajasthan				
40	Representatives from DGM MP				
41	Representatives from CGM, Gujarat				
42	Ms. Bishakha	Senior Geologist	sr.geologist1-nmet@gov.in	8126541605	NMEDT
43	Smt. Palak Kapoor	Senior Geologist	sr.geologist4-nmet@gov.in	8851742488	NMEDT

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