

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust
Minutes of the 97th Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1) Meeting
held on 25th & 26th May 2026 through video conferencing

The 97th 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 25th & 26th May 2026. Members of TCC-1, NMEDT and representatives from, DGM Rajasthan, DMM WB, DGM Maharashtra, GSI, MECL, IBM, PRB InfraProjects Pvt. Ltd., M/s. MMPL Private Limited, Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Indian Mine Planners & Consultants, M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited, TGMDC, Critical Mineral Trackers, Geoxpore Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Gems Project Pvt. Ltd. and BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt. Ltd have attended the meeting through their respective VC modes.

The list of participants is enclosed in Annexure-1.

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 97.1: Technical evaluation of new project proposals

Agenda 97.1.1. Preliminary exploration (G3 Stage) of Graphite in Kandegaon Block, Kalahandi District, Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet Nos. 64P/11 and 64P/12 and is underlain by charnockite, granite gneiss, khondalite, leptynite, and calc-silicate gneiss of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB).
- b. GSI reconnaissance investigations (FS 1979–80) in parts of Sambalpur, Bolangir, and Kalahandi districts identified several workable graphite occurrences associated with migmatized khondalite zones influenced by granitic intrusions.
- c. The investigations indicated low-grade, high-tonnage graphite mineralization along continuous linear bands and higher-grade, limited-tonnage vein/lensoidal bodies, with an estimated resource of about 75,348 tonnes up to 40 m depth.
- d. GSI's detailed investigations in the Turekela and Bakbera areas (FS 1982–83) established graphite mineralization within sheared and hydrothermally altered migmatite zones; in Bakbera, two continuous bands were estimated to contain about 19,993 tonnes of graphite with 5.33–6.9% fixed carbon up to 10 m depth.
- e. Subsequent investigations (FS 1983–84) in parts of Bolangir, Kalahandi, and Phulbani districts confirmed that graphite mineralization is mainly hosted within quartz–garnet–sillimanite ± graphite schist, migmatites, and quartzite.

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- f. Previous GSI investigations identified seven linear graphite zones (five in Bolangir and two in Kalahandi) comprising predominantly low-grade, high-tonnage lensoidal bodies and medium-grade vein deposits, with resource estimates of about 0.64 million tonnes in Bolangir–Kalahandi districts and 8,620 tonnes in Nuapada district.
- g. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed G3-stage exploration involving detailed geological mapping (1:2000 scale), geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, ground geophysical surveys, and drilling for resource assessment.
- h. The Committee noted that the proposal, earlier reviewed in the 91st TCC-I meeting, overlapped with areas already explored by GSI and OMC, including Cluster-66 allotted to MECL; the agency has since revised the proposal based on the earlier observations and submitted it for review.
- i. The Committee observed that while DGM comments on the G4 block area are available, the revised G3 block should also be referred to DGM for comments. Considering that the proposed G3 exploration area of 11 sq. km for graphite is excessively large, the Committee deferred the proposal and decided to reconsider it upon receipt of DGM's comments.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Cluster-66 lies within the proposed block that has already been allotted to MECL by the State Level Committee. G4 stage investigation for graphite has already been carried out by GSI in the proposed block hence it is not recommended for further G4-stage investigation for graphite.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	The southern portion of the proposed block overlaps with area covered during FS 1972-73.
5	NMEDT	The block falls in Recorded Forest Area. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

****These comments were for earlier proposal and since the area is modified, fresh comments from agency to be taken.**

Recommendations of TCC-1:


The Committee deferred the proposal, noting that comments from DGM, Odisha are required for further evaluation of the proposal.

Agenda 97.1.2. Preliminary exploration (G3 Stage) of Graphite in Jhiripani Block, Kalahandi & Kandhamal District, Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet Nos. 64P/11 and 64P/12 and comprises litho-units of the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB), including charnockite, granite gneiss, khondalite, leptynite, and calc-silicate gneiss.
- b. GSI investigations in the Turekela and Bakbera areas (FS 1982–83) established graphite mineralization within sheared and hydrothermally altered migmatite zones, with reported resources of about 19,993 tonnes of graphite (5.33–6.9% FC) in Bakbera and potential graphite-bearing zones in Turekela.
- c. Assessment of graphite resources during FS 1991–93 in Bolangir, Kalahandi, and Nuapada districts estimated about 0.64 million tonnes of graphite resources in

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- Bolangir–Kalahandi districts and 8,620 tonnes in Nuapada district.
- OMC's G4-stage exploration in the Lamer–Panga Block (49.084 sq. km) delineated 2.034 million tonnes of graphite resources with an average grade of 4.67% FC under the UNFC 334 category.
 - Subsequent G3-stage exploration (FS 2023–24) in Lamer–Panga Block-B (12.994 sq. km) established 1.304 million tonnes of graphite resources with an average grade of 4.72% FC (2% cut-off) under the UNFC 333 category.
 - The proposal was previously reviewed during 91st TCC-1 meeting and the Committee noted that about 60% of the proposed area overlaps with GSI and OMC G4/G3 exploration blocks and advised the agency to revise the proposal based on available exploration reports and submit a G3-stage proposal for further consideration.
 - In compliance with the Committee's earlier observations, the agency revised the proposal and submitted it for review, proposing G3-stage exploration for graphite mineralization involving detailed geological mapping (1:2000 scale), bedrock geochemical sampling, pitting/trenching, and exploratory drilling with sampling for resource assessment under the UNFC G3 category.
 - The Committee noted that while DGM comments on the G4 block area have been received, comments on the revised G3 block are still awaited. Accordingly, the proposal was deferred and will be taken up for consideration upon receipt of DGM comments.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed block overlaps areas previously explored by GSI (FS 1983–84) and the Lamer-Panga block explored at G4 stage by Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. during FS 2023–24; hence, it is not recommended for G4 stage graphite exploration.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	The southern part of the block has already been covered by DoMG, while the northern part overlaps the explored Lamerpanga Block of OMC, Khaliguda Block of Earthviron Lab Pvt. Ltd., and the G4 Bauxite Block of Belaghar. Hence, the block is not considered suitable for G4 level exploration.
5	NMEDT	The block falls in Recorded Forest Area. The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

**These comments were for earlier proposal and since the area is modified, fresh comments from agency to be taken.

Recommendations of TCC-1:


The Committee deferred the proposal, noting that comments from DGM, Odisha are required for further evaluation of the proposal.

Agenda 97.1.3. Reconnaissance survey (G4) for gold and associated minerals in Dangarh Atargaon, Mohla-Manpur-Ambagarh, (Area-133.92 sq. km) Chouki-Districts, Chhattisgarh. (Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/CT/25-26/029)

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet Nos. 64D/9, 64D/10, 64D/13, and 64D/14 and is underlain by litho-units of the Bengal Group, Latmarka (Bailadila)

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- Group, Kotri Supergroup, and associated intrusive rocks.
- b. GSI carried out Preliminary Prospecting (FS 1996–97) for gold mineralization in the Dangarh–Chauki area, covering over 480 sq. km through reconnaissance surveys and stream-sediment sampling, which led to the identification of three low-potential auriferous zones: Bhagwantola, Ambagarh Chauki, and Goplinchua.
 - c. Analytical results indicated low gold values, ranging from <0.10 ppm to 0.20 ppm in most soil and bedrock samples, with a maximum value of 0.70 ppm recorded in a soil sample from the Bhagwantola prospect.
 - d. Previous exploration in and around the proposed area reported positive gold indications from stream-sediment and soil panning, with up to 20 gold grains per 5 kg sample, and identified eight major quartz veins associated with gold mineralization.
 - e. Detailed exploration at the Sonadehi Gold Prospect (FS 1994–2000) established three mineralized zones within the Bailadila Group BIF, with gold grades ranging from 0.20 to 25 g/t in samples and up to 3.7 g/t in trenches.
 - f. Drilling of 3,314.2 m (20 boreholes) at Sonadehi confirmed Zone A as a promising deposit, with estimated resources of about 2.28 million tonnes containing 1,608 kg of gold at an average grade of 0.699 g/t (0.10 g/t cut-off).
 - g. Exploration in the adjoining Dumartola and Bodal areas has reported anomalous Au, Ag, Cu, Pb, Zn, and Bi values, indicating the presence of a prospective polymetallic mineralization system in the region.
 - h. Based on the available exploration data, the agency proposed G4-stage exploration for gold and associated minerals, comprising geological mapping (1:12500 scale), geochemical sampling, ground geophysical surveys, PTS, and exploratory drilling for preliminary resource assessment.
 - i. The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that previous GSI investigations were carried out at a reconnaissance scale (1:50,000), wherein most bedrock samples assayed <0.1 ppm Au and only one pedological sample returned 0.70 ppm Au out of 231 samples; accordingly, the GSI report concluded that the prospect did not warrant further detailed exploration at that stage.
 - j. The Committee advised the agency to undertake field investigations focusing on silicified quartz reefs, tuff, and other favourable litho-units, and to submit analytical results for further consideration.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	G4 stage investigation for Gold has already been carried out by GSI in the proposed block hence it is not recommended for further G4-stage investigation for graphite.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has conducted G4 to G2 stage uranium exploration in and around the proposed block, establishing 1530 tonnes of U-oxide resources in the Bodal area, Rajnandgaon district, Chhattisgarh. In view of the known uranium potential of the area, uranium may also be included among the elements for analysis.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	NA
5	NMEDT	The block overlaps with multiple G4 Exploration blocks for Gold and Recorded Forest Area. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred the proposal, noting that there is insufficient justification and supporting data to revisit an area already explored by GSI. The agency was advised to undertake field investigations focusing on silicified quartz reefs, tuff, and other favourable lithounits, collect representative samples, and submit analytical results for further consideration.

Agenda 97.1.4. Preliminary Exploration (G3 Stage) of REE and associated minerals in Dandudih Block, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand.

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet No. 73J/09 and comprises litho-units of the Singhbhum Group, Chhotanagpur Gneiss Complex (CGC), and Dalma Group, represented by metafelsic tuff, phyllite, psammite, calcsilicate rock, amphibolite, granite gneiss, and metavolcanic rocks.
- b. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that AMD has already carried out G4/G3-stage uranium exploration in the proposed block, reporting U_3O_8 values of up to 0.026%, with 11 of the 16 boreholes intersecting mineralization exceeding 0.010% eU_3O_8 , indicating uranium potential in the area.
- c. Based on the analytical results and ongoing/ future follow-up exploration studies, AMD has not recommended any exploration work in the area at this stage.
- d. In view of the comments received from AMD, the Committee did not proceed with the technical presentation by the agency and did not recommend the proposal for approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Awaited
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	G4/G3 stage uranium investigation has already been carried out by AMD in the proposed block. Analytical results reported up to 0.026% U_3O_8 , with 11 out of 16 boreholes intersecting $>0.010\%$ eU_3O_8 mineralisation suggesting uranium potential and ongoing/future follow-up exploration by AMD, the proposed block is not recommended.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal in view of comments received from AMD.

**Agenda 97.1.5. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) of Graphite in Sabuj Dweep Block, Bankura District, West Bengal.
(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/WB/26-27/013)**

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet No. 73J/13 and is underlain by mica schist and graphite-sericite schist of the Chaibasa Formation, intruded by later

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- quartz veins.
- Previous investigations by DMM, West Bengal and subsequent geochemical sampling and drilling around Tamakhun established copper mineralization hosted within chlorite–sericite–quartz schists, with a copper-bearing lode traced up to 60 m depth and 350 m strike length, averaging 1.95% Cu.
 - Specialized Thematic Mapping (FS 1990–91 to 1992–93) reported thin and discontinuous graphite-bearing sericite schist associated with argillaceous rocks, with geochemical analyses indicating Ti (~1000 ppm), V (200–500 ppm), and Ba (~275 ppm).
 - MMPL Pvt. Ltd., under an NMEDT project, delineated potential graphite occurrences in the Ranibandh and Korapara East blocks located in the southeastern part of Toposheet No. 73J/13.
 - G4-stage exploration in the Ranibandh Block estimated graphite resources of 0.898 million tonnes in Zone-A (2.15–9.69% FC) and 0.483 million tonnes in Zone-B (3.08–8.69% FC), while ongoing exploration in the Korapara East Block has encountered multiple graphite bands with 2.16–12.67% FC and thicknesses ranging from 6 m to 50 m.
 - The agency reported collection of five graphite-bearing samples from the proposed Sabuj Dweep block, with fixed carbon values ranging from 4.0% to 5.4% FC.
 - In view of the above exploration data, the agency presented the proposed block for G3-stage exploration to assess Graphite and associated mineralization
 - The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that only an isolated graphite-bearing band extending over about 600 m has been identified from BhuKosh data, supported by five samples assaying 4.00–5.40% FC. The Committee further noted that the area has not been covered under G4-stage investigation, the sample locations are widely spaced, and STM data has not been consulted; therefore, the available data are insufficient to justify the proposal.
 - The Committee advised the agency to review all available exploration reports and STM maps, delineate the extent of graphite-bearing bands, and submit a G4-stage exploration proposal supported by adequate data and technical justification.


Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	No past Reconnaissance/Exploration work carried out by GSI in the proposed area. No occurrence of graphite has been reported yet in the proposed area.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	NA
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, observing that the agency had not provided sufficient justification for undertaking G3-stage exploration and that the proposal was based primarily on a single isolated graphite-bearing band.

The Committee advised the agency to consult all available exploration reports and STM maps, delineate the extent of graphite-bearing zones, and submit a G4-stage exploration proposal supported by adequate data and technical justification.

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**Agenda 97.1.6. Reconnaissance survey (G4 Stage) for Graphite in Barikul area,
Bankura District, West Bengal.
(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G4/WB/26-27/015)**

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet No. 73J/13 and is underlain by graphite/carbon-bearing mica schist, quartz-muscovite-biotite schist, calc-silicate rocks, quartzite, amphibolite, and quartz veins of the Chaibasa Formation, Singhbhum Group.
- b. Previous investigations at Tamakhun established copper mineralization hosted in chlorite-sericite schists, with a copper-bearing lode traced up to 60 m depth and 350 m strike length, averaging 1.95% Cu.
- c. Specialized Thematic Mapping (FS 1990-91 to 1992-93) reported thin and discontinuous graphite-bearing sericite schist associated with argillaceous rocks in the area.
- d. MMPL, under the NMEDT project, delineated potential graphite occurrences in the adjoining Ranibandh and Korapara East blocks, where G4 exploration estimated 0.898 million tonnes and 0.483 million tonnes of graphite resources in two zones with FC grades ranging from 2.15% to 9.69%.
- e. Ongoing exploration in the Korapara East block has intersected multiple graphite bands with FC values ranging from 2.16% to 12.67% and surface thicknesses varying from 6 m to 50 m.
- f. The agency has also collected 12 no. of bed rock samples from graphite bearing bands and the analytical data shows FC values varying from 1.25% to 4.19%.
- g. In view of the above exploration data, the agency presented the proposed block for G3-stage exploration to assess Graphite and associated mineralization.
- h. The Committee reviewed the proposal and observed that only a small, isolated graphite-bearing band has been delineated in the northern part of the proposed area. In the absence of sufficient supporting data and technical justification, the Committee did not find the proposal suitable for further consideration at this stage.
- i. The Committee advised the agency to review the GSI G4 investigation reports and recommendations, revisit the field area to ascertain the continuity and extent of graphite-bearing and parallel bands, and revise the proposal accordingly. The Committee further observed that the proposed area is too small for G4-stage exploration and suggested identifying a geologically prospective area supported by adequate data and justification.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	Based on the findings of previous exploration work conducted by the GSI in the area, no occurrence of graphite has been reported.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

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The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as it was based on an isolated graphite-bearing band and lacked sufficient justification for G3-stage exploration. The agency was advised to review GSI reports, revisit the area, and establish the continuity and extent of graphite mineralization, if any, before resubmission.

The Committee advised the agency to revise the proposal by identifying a geologically prospective area supported by adequate exploration data and technical justification.

**Agenda 97.1.7. Preliminary Exploration (G3) of REE and associated minerals in Bhakri Khera Block, District: Balotra, Rajasthan.
(Proposal ID: ME/DD/G3/RJ/26-27/014)**

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet Nos. 45C/01 and 45C/02 and is underlain by plutonic and volcanic rocks of the Neoproterozoic Malani Igneous Suite.
- b. The exposed lithologies comprise volcanic, hypabyssal, and plutonic equivalents ranging from basic to acidic compositions, represented by basalt and rhyolite flows, pyroclastics, rhyolite porphyry, dolerite dykes, and granites.
- c. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that the proposed block completely overlaps with the Tapra-Keetpala Exploration Licence (EL) block, as informed by GSI.
- d. In view of the comments received from GSI, the Committee did not proceed with the technical presentation by the agency and did not recommend the proposal for approval.
- e. The committee, however, suggested NMEDT to get details and auction status of the EL block.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed area seems feasible for taking up REE, RM and Associated elements however, proposed block overlaps completely with Tapra-Keetpala exploration license block.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

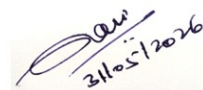
The Committee did not approve the proposal as the proposed area completely overlaps with Tapra-Keetpala EL block.

Agenda 97.1.8. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE/RM in Udaypura Block for Tikamgarh District, Madhya Pradesh State (Area 61.46 sq. km). (Proposal ID: ME/IND/G4/MP/P/26-27/004)

[Implementing Agency: BMRC]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet Nos. 54K/16 and 54O/4 and is covered by TTG gneisses, granites, migmatites, amphibolites, and multiple intrusive

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- phases of the Archean Bundelkhand Granitic Complex (BGC), a favourable setting for rare-metal and REE-bearing pegmatites.
- b. GSI carried out G4-stage investigation (FS 2016–17) for gold and associated sulphide mineralization in the Gotet area of the Bundelkhand Granitic Complex, during which 100 bedrock and 50 pitting/trenching samples were analysed, with only limited anomalies recorded, including Cu >1000 ppm in 7% of samples, Bi >1 ppm in 21%, and Ag of 1 ppm in 25% of samples.
 - c. Reconnaissance geochemical exploration (FS 1989–90) identified structurally controlled copper mineralization in the Gotet and Chandera blocks, with quartz reefs extending up to 425 m and 300 m strike lengths respectively, and copper values ranging from 300 ppm to 1450 ppm.
 - d. The Committee noted that the proposal was approved in principle in the 93rd TCC-I meeting, wherein it was observed that the entire area had already been covered by GSI. The agency was advised to assess the feasibility of G3-stage exploration through field verification and sample collection, and the proposal was accorded in-principle approval subject to submission of supporting analytical data.
 - e. The agency informed the Committee that 13 samples were collected from the proposed area, with analytical results indicating maximum total REE (tREE) values of 444.75 ppm.
 - f. The Committee reviewed the analytical results and observed that the recorded tREE values are too low to justify further exploration; accordingly, the proposal was not recommended.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	No past Reconnaissance/Exploration work carried out by GSI in the proposed area for REE mineralization.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however a small portion fall in Recorded Forest Area.

Recommendations of TCC-1:


The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the tREE values recorded in the proposed area were too low to justify further exploration.

Agenda 97.1.9. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE/RM in Mathupra Block for Tikamgarh District, Madhya Pradesh State (Area 61.46 sq. km). (Proposal ID: ME/IND/G4/UP/P/26-27/005)

[Implementing Agency: BMRC]

- a. The proposed block falls within SOI Toposheet Nos. 54O/4 and 54O/8 and is covered by TTG gneisses, granites, migmatites, amphibolites, and multiple intrusive phases of the Archean Bundelkhand Granitic Complex (BGC), a favourable setting for rare-metal and REE-bearing pegmatites.
- b. GSI carried out G4-stage investigation (FS 2016–17) for gold and associated sulphide mineralization in the Gotet area of the Bundelkhand Granitic Complex, during which 100 bedrock and 50 pitting/trenching samples were analysed, with only limited anomalies recorded, including Cu >1000 ppm in 7% of samples, Bi >1 ppm

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- in 21%, and Ag of 1 ppm in 25% of samples.
- c. Reconnaissance geochemical exploration (FS 1989–90) identified structurally controlled copper mineralization in the Gotet and Chandera blocks, with quartz reefs extending up to 425 m and 300 m strike lengths respectively, and copper values ranging from 300 ppm to 1450 ppm.
 - d. The Committee noted that the proposal was approved in principle in the 93rd TCC-I meeting, where in agency was advised to undertake field investigations, collect samples, and submit analytical results to support the proposal. In-principle approval was accorded subject to submission of such data.
 - e. The Committee did not recommend the proposal, observing that the samples collected by the agency yielded very low tREE and rare-metal (RM) values, which are insufficient to justify further exploration. The Committee advised the agency to identify a more prospective area and submit a revised proposal supported by adequate geological evidence and analytical data.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	No past Reconnaissance/Exploration work carried out by GSI in the proposed area for REE mineralization. For feasibility, GSI reports as baseline data may be consulted.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	No past Reconnaissance/Exploration work carried out by State DGM in the proposed area for REE mineralization.
5	NMEDT	A small portion of NMEDT funded block overlaps with the proposed block and a small patch of proposed block falls in Recorded Forest Area.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not recommend the proposal, as the tREE and RM values recorded in the proposed area were too low to justify further exploration.

Agenda 97.2: Review of Ongoing Procurement Project & Timeline Extension


Agenda 97.2.1. Establishing Advanced Geophysical Laboratory at Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI)

[Implementing Agency: GSI]

- a. The Chairman, Executive Committee has approved the proposal for Establishing Advanced Geophysical Laboratory at Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI). The approval was ratified by EC in its 43rd meeting held on 14.08.2025. Sanction order was issued on 13.08.2025 with a timeline of 12 months (upto 12.08.2026) for completion of project. The approved cost of project was INR 3,53,02,215/-.
- b. GSI informed that the components as mentioned in Table 1 was approved for procurement:

Table 1: Approved components for Advanced Geophysical Laboratory at GSI TI

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Sl. No.	Components	Estimated Cost (INR) (including GST)
1.	Computer systems (25 No.)	Rs. 92,12,496/-
2.	One Work station and UPS	Rs. 6,51,569/-
3.	INTREPID and GEOMODELLER software (25 licenses) including training for 2 years	Rs. 2,42,49,000/-
4.	86 inch Digital display (1 No.)	Rs. 2,45,000/-
5.	Infrastructure	Rs. 9,44,150/-
	Total	Rs. 3,53,02,215/-

- c. GSI informed that during the procurement and execution phases, additional functional requirements, infrastructural changes, and market-driven cost escalations were identified. Consequently, certain modifications to the originally approved proposal and inclusion of additional components became necessary to ensure that the laboratory fully meets its functional, operational, and training objective.
- d. It was further informed that due to the escalated price for computer systems driven by Rising Component Costs, Global Supply Chain Constraints, Currency Exchange Volatility, Higher Logistics and Import Expenses, OEM and Vendor Price Revisions, an additional cost of Rs.55,80,968/- is needed for procurement of 25 nos. of High End Computer System.
- e. The committee was apprised that the laboratory was originally proposed to be housed in a hall measuring 29 × 19 feet. Subsequently, due to availability of space, the allotted hall has been expanded to 49 × 19 feet. Considering the increased hall dimensions, an upgrade from the proposed 86-inch digital display to a 110-inch digital display is required to ensure clear visibility and effective delivery of training sessions for all participants.
- f. GSI further presented the proposal for procurement of two PTZ cameras, gooseneck microphones, and microphone-cum-speakers for the Advanced Geophysical Laboratory to support hybrid training, online lectures, live streaming, recording of technical sessions, and effective interaction with remote participants.
- g. It was also informed that LAN switches with cabinet and router are required for server–client configuration of the licensed geophysical software (INTREPID and GEOMODELLER) and to ensure secure, reliable, and high-speed connectivity among all network devices within the laboratory.
- h. With this background, GSI requested for modification of approved components of the project and addition of two components as per Table 2. The modification in cost was also requested as per Table 2. The sought modification in cost is from Rs. 3,53,02,215/- to Rs. 4,22,12,035.61/-, i.e. an additional cost of Rs. 69,09,820.61/-.
- i. It was further informed that the procurement of Intrepid and Geomodeller software for establishment of the Advanced Geophysical Laboratory was carried out through NMEDT funding in accordance with prescribed procurement procedures, and the bills were cleared by NMEDT after successful installation and commissioning of the software.
- j. It was also informed that during the 1st Quarter Meeting of the Independent External Monitors (IEM) of GSI held on 12.05.2026, the IEM sought clarification regarding approval of the competent authority for procurement of Intrepid and Geomodeller software on Proprietary Article Certificate (PAC) basis and suggested that future NMEDT sanction orders should explicitly mention procurement on PAC basis, wherever applicable.
- k. Hence, it was requested that if the modification of approved procurement is recommended, the revised sanction order may explicitly mention that procurement may be done on PAC basis, to avoid any audit objection in future.

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- I. The committee reviewed the proposal and agreed for cost modification of approved components as well as addition of 2 components as per Table 2.

Table 2: Cost of Components and Procurement Status

Sl. No.	Item	Approx. cost (including 18% GST)	Procurement Status	Escalation in Price	Remarks
1.	Computer systems (25 No.)	Rs.92,12,496/-	Financial sanction obtained from DG, GSI, L1 price quoted is Rs.1,47,93,464/-	Rs.55,80,968/-	The projection price of Rs.92,12,496 was made in February,2025 and since then due to Rising Component Costs, Global Supply Chain Constraints, Currency Exchange Volatility, Higher Logistics and Import Expenses, OEM and Vendor Price Revisions
2.	One Work station and UPS	Rs.6,51,569/-	Rs.6,51,569/-	-Rs.29,705/- (Remaining)	Procured @ Rs.6,21,864/-
3.	INTREPID and GEOMODELLER software (25 licences)	Rs.2,42,49,000/-	Rs.2,42,49,000/-		Procured.
4.	86 inch Digital display (1 No.)	Rs.2,45,000/-	Upgraded to 110 inch display along with Stand Rs.10,23,959.99	Rs.7,78,959.99/-	Dimension of the hall has increased from 29 x 19 feet to 49x19
5.	Infrastructure	9,44,150/-	9,44,150/-	- Rs. 19,097.38/- (Remaining)	Procured, Rs.9,25,052.62/-
Additional Components				Approx. Price (Including GST)	
6.	PTZ Camera-Based Audio-Visual Communication System	PTZ camera (2Nos.)-Rs.3,51,640/- Goose Neck Microphone (2Nos.)-Rs.75,520/- Microphone cum Speaker(02 Nos)-Rs.1,43,435/-	Need Financial sanction from NMEDT for Rs.5,70,595/-	Rs.5,70,595/-	To support hybrid training programmes, online lectures, live streaming, recording of technical sessions, and interactive demonstrations
7.	LAN Switches with Cabinet and Router	Rs.28,100/-	Need Financial sanction from NMEDT for Rs.28,100/-	Rs.28,100/-	to ensure secure, reliable, and high-speed connectivity

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Escalated Price	Rs.69,09,820.61/ -	
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Recommendations of TCC 1:

The committee recommended following for approval of PSC, NMEDT

- i) *Cost enhancement from Rs. 3,53,02,215/- to Rs. 4,22,12,035.61/-, i.e. an additional cost of Rs. 69,09,820.61/-.*
- ii) *Procurement of additional components as per Table 2.*

The committee also suggested that revised sanction order may explicitly mention that procurement may be done on PAC basis, to avoid any audit objection in future.

Agenda 97.3: Project Evaluation for In-Principle Approval

Agenda 97.3.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Gold in Madhupur Block, Purulia District, West Bengal.


(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/WB/P/26-27/011)

[Implementing Agency: M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 73J/05 and the rocks of Singhbhum Group of Palaeoproterozoic age is exposed.
- b. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that the northern part of the proposed block overlaps with an area previously explored by GSI, as per NGDR records, where G4-level exploration has already been carried out.
- c. Geovale further informed that the southern part of the proposed block is predominantly covered by forest area.
- d. As per NGDR records, southern part of the proposed block has also been covered at G4 level for some other commodity.
- e. The Committee suggested that the agency review the reports of previous exploration work and, if any gap areas are identified, suitably modify the proposed block area. The Committee further advised that, if sufficient data and justification are available, the agency may submit a G3-stage exploration proposal for in-principle approval.
- f. The committee did not approve the present proposal.

SI. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed block overlaps with earlier explored blocks of GSI, based on the findings of previous exploration work conducted by the GSI, no occurrence of gold has been reported.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Representative from DMM WB informed that there is no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of DMM, WB and there is no EL/ML in the proposed block.

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5	NMEDT	Proposed block overlap with multiple GSI Exploration G4 for Gold mineralization. The proposed block overlaps with auctionable GM G4 block for Phosphorite commodity. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however a small portion fall in Recorded Forest Area.
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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal, as the proposed block overlaps with multiple G4-stage exploration areas for gold mineralization previously explored by GSI, as per records available on the NGDR portal.


Agenda 97.3.2. Preliminary exploration for REE and associated mineralization in Marlapallem-Dekanakonda block, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/AP/P/26-27/023)

[Implementing Agency: M/s Kartikay Exploration & Mining Services Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 57M/09.
- b. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that AMD has carried out G4-stage reconnaissance exploration for uranium and critical minerals in different phases within the proposed area. The exploration results indicate that 12 grab samples collected from the area assayed up to 0.016% eU₃O₈, 0.029% ThO₂, 1,315 ppm TREE, and 400 ppm Zr.
- c. Based on the analytical results and ongoing studies, AMD has not recommended any further exploration work in the area at this stage.
- d. In view of the comments received from AMD, the Committee did not proceed with the technical presentation by the agency and did not recommend the proposal for approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed NPEA block falls within one ongoing RMT project of GSI. The work in the area is under progress for REE-RM and associated minerals. Therefore, the proposal may not be considered feasible, to avoid duplication of work.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium and critical minerals in different phases. Grab samples (n=12) from the explored area analysed up to 0.016% eU ₃ O ₈ , 0.029% ThO ₂ , 1,315 ppm TREE and 400ppm Zr. AMD is carrying out radiometric and geochemical survey (G4 stage). In view of the above, the proposed block is not recommended
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	DMG have detailed about existing Mining/Quarry Leases, Letter of Intent (Lol) area of M/s. APMDC Ltd, proposed auction blocks and Pending Applications falling within or overlapping with the proposed Block. The total area overlapping or conflicting with respect to EL/ML (at different stages) is 171.64 Ha

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5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.
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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal in view of comments received from AMD.

Agenda 97.3.3. Reconnaissance survey for REE & RM mineralization in and around Mutharsuvari palem block, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/AP/P/26-27/023)

[Implementing Agency: M/s Kartikay Exploration & Mining Services Pvt. Ltd.]

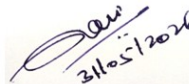
- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 57M/09.
- b. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that AMD has carried out G4-stage reconnaissance exploration for uranium and critical minerals in different phases within the proposed area. The exploration results indicate that 12 grab samples collected from the area assayed up to 0.016% eU₃O₈, 0.029% ThO₂, 1,315 ppm TREE, and 400 ppm Zr.
- c. Based on the analytical results and ongoing studies, AMD has not recommended any further exploration work in the area at this stage.
- d. In view of the comments received from AMD, the Committee did not proceed with the technical presentation by the agency and did not recommend the proposal for approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed NPEA block falls within one ongoing RMT project of GSI. The work in the area is under progress for REE-RM and associated minerals. Therefore, the proposal may not be considered feasible, to avoid duplication of work.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed blocks of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out reconnaissance exploration (G4 stage) for uranium and critical minerals in different phases. Grab samples (n=12) from the explored area analysed up to 0.016% eU ₃ O ₈ , 0.029% ThO ₂ , 1,315ppm TREE and 400ppm Zr. AMD is carrying out radiometric and geochemical survey (G4 stage). In view of the above, the proposed block is not recommended .
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	There is no overlap with completed or ongoing project of State DGM. No ML or CL present in the area
5	NMEDT	The proposed block does not overlap with NMEDT funded projects. Proposed Block overlap with GSI project titled Reconnaissance Survey for REE-RM mineralization projects of 2023-24 as per NGDR portal .

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal in view of comments received from AMD.

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**Agenda 97.3.4. Preliminary Exploration of REE & Associated Minerals in Anandpur Block (G3 Level) [3.21 Sq. Km.], District Balrampur-Ramanujganj, Chhattisgarh.
(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G4/CT/P/26-27/025)**

[Implementing Agency: Gems Projects Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 63P/08.
- b. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that AMD has carried out G4-stage reconnaissance exploration for uranium in and around the proposed block in different phases. The exploration results indicate that 11 grab samples collected from the area assayed up to 0.16% eU₃O₈ and 0.33% ThO₂.
- c. Further, AMD is currently carrying out G4-stage exploration in and around the proposed area. Preliminary results indicate that 13 grab samples collected from the area have assayed up to 0.10% eU₃O₈.
- d. The committee observed that upto 1600 ppm of Uranium is reported from the area.
- e. Based on the analytical results and ongoing studies, AMD has not recommended any further exploration work in the area at this stage.
- f. In view of the comments received from AMD, the Committee did not proceed with the technical presentation by the agency and did not recommend the proposal for approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	100% overlapping found in the proposed Block with GSI previous works of 2021-22 for REE/ RM exploration (G4 stage) & GSI previous works of 2019-20 for basemetal exploration (G3 stage).
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	AMD has carried out and is continuing G4 stage uranium exploration in and around the proposed block and it is found to be potential for Uranium mineralization; hence, the block is not recommended due to ongoing and future exploration by AMD. Uranium value upto 1600 ppm has been reported.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects, however a small portion fall in Recorded Forest Area.

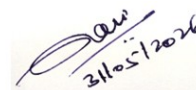
Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal in view of comments received from AMD.

**Agenda 97.3.5. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) For Basemetal and Associated minerals in and around Narvakatipalle block, Y.S.R Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh.
(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/AP/P/26-27/016)**

[Implementing Agency: GeoExpOre Pvt. Ltd.]

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- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 57J/15 and exposes lithounits of Cumbum Formation of Nallamalai Group of Cuddapah Supergroup.
- b. The agency apprised the Committee that GSI had carried out G4-stage reconnaissance exploration in the area during 2019–20, during which a total of 278 bedrock samples, 50 PTS samples, and 10 petrochemical samples were collected and analysed for Cu, Pb, Zn, Au, Ag, Sn, W, Co, Mo, As, and Ni.
- c. During the investigation, GSI delineated several dolomite bands exhibiting Pb–Zn mineralization.
- d. The Cumbum Formation in the study area is folded into a series of alternating antiform and synform structures. The deformation has led to remobilization and concentration of mineralization, particularly within the cores and hinge zones of these folds, which acted as favorable dilation zones for mineral deposition.
- e. In the proposed block, 12 potential dolomite bands trending NNW–SSE, with low to steep easterly to westerly dips, have been identified based on geochemical analysis. These bands have a cumulative strike length of approximately 6.82 km and widths ranging from 15 to 30 m.
- f. Geochemical analysis of the identified dolomite bands indicates Zn values ranging from 15 ppm to 9.25% (average 2.59%), Pb values from 5 ppm to 5.12% (average 0.93%), and combined Pb+Zn values from 20 ppm to 11.00% (average 3.53%).
- g. The Committee reviewed the proposal and advised the agency to submit a comprehensive exploration plan. The agency was further instructed to compile and plot all available geological and geophysical data on appropriate maps to facilitate integrated interpretation and planning of exploration activities.
- h. The Committee advised that the proposal should include a detailed phased exploration plan, with detailed mapping (DM), pitting, trenching, and associated activities to be undertaken in the first phase, followed by drilling and related works in the second phase based on the outcomes of the initial investigations.
- i. The committee approved the proposal in principle and the approval is subject to comments from DGM, Andhra Pradesh.

SI. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The area was covered by G4 stage of exploration during FS: 2019-20. The area may be considered feasible for further exploration.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee approved the proposal in principle and suggested to bring DPR within 3 months. The in-principle approval is subject to comments from DGM Andhra Pradesh.

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Agenda 97.3.6. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Vanadium and Titanium in Magnetite bearing Dune sands between Nava Rajpara and Nikol (Mahuva Block) in Bhavnagar District, Gujarat. (Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/GJ/P/26-27/026)

[Implementing Agency: Geomarine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 46C/04 and 41O/16.
- b. The agency proposed the block based on a Reconnaissance Survey (G4) conducted by it for vanadium and titanium in magnetite-bearing sands occurring within beach and dune environments along the Saurashtra coast, Gujarat.
- c. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that the proposed area lies within Coastal Regulatory Zone (both CRZ-IA and IB).
- d. The committee was apprised by NMEDT Secretariat that as per Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2019 of MoEFCC, mining activities are not allowed in CRZ-IA and IB.
- e. The Committee deliberated on the issue and decided to keep the proposal in abeyance until detailed clarification regarding the applicability of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) provisions to the proposed area is obtained. The agency may resubmit the proposal in a subsequent TCC meeting for further consideration.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed block is overlap by 25 sq. km. area of earlier exploration block carried out by GSI. However, no analytical data available for Vanadium, Titanium bearing Magnetite other associated minerals within this area.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	NA
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	The proposed block has no overlapping with the CGM ongoing or completed projects.
5	NMEDT	The proposed block is overlapping with the Existing Major & Minor Mining Leases and Coastal Regulatory Zone . The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

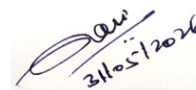
Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee deferred the proposal in principle and decided to keep the proposal in abeyance until detailed clarification regarding the applicability of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) provisions to the proposed area is obtained

Agenda 97.3.7. Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Gold, Tungsten and REE mineralization within the rock units of Donargarh Granite (Bundelli Granite Formation) and Quartz Vein & basic dykes of Mesoproterozoic age in and around Barnhandehi, Bangawan, Lohjhar, Taraf Manjali (OG), Arnethi and Gondalabahara areas of Gariaband district of Chhattisgarh

[Implementing Agency: IMPCON]

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- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 64L/01 and exposes rocks of Donargarh Granite (Bundelli Granite Formation) and Quartz Vein & basic dykes of Mesoproterozoic age.
- b. The agency informed that GSI's geochemical mapping (FS 2012–13) in the Bastar Craton and Chhattisgarh Basin (Toposheets 64L/1, 2, 3, 5 (part) and 64K/16, Raipur District, Chhattisgarh) indicated significant potential for REEs along with gold occurrences, and recommended detailed investigation of anomaly patterns of elemental groups Ce–Pr–Nd–Eu, La–Sm–Gd, Tb–Dy–Ho–Er–Tm–Yb, and Tm–Lu–Hf due to their economic and strategic importance.
- c. The agency further apprised that the preliminary geochemical analysis carried out by GSI under the NGCM programme in the proposed area revealed concentrations of up to 3 ppb Au, 5 ppm W, and 551 ppm REE in stream sediment samples.
- d. The Committee reviewed the proposal and noted that it is primarily based on NGCM stream-sediment geochemical data, with recorded values of <3 ppb Au, <5 ppm W, and 378–551 ppm REE within the proposed block, which were considered insufficient to justify further exploration at this stage.
- e. The committee did not approve the proposal.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	100% overlapping found in the proposed Block with GSI previous project for search for kimberlite clan rocks in Gariaband district, Chhattisgarh.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	Awaited
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee did not approve the proposal as the analytical values within the proposed block, were insufficient to justify further exploration at this stage.


Agenda 97.3.8. Preliminary Exploration (G3) of Vanadium, Graphite, Chromium and Other Associated RMs Block in West Siang District, Arunachal Pradesh.

(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/AR/P/26-27/036)

[Implementing Agency: IMPCON]

- a. The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 82L/11 and exposes lithounits of Bomdila and Miri Group of rocks of Palaeo- to Meso-proterozoic age.
- b. While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that AMD is currently carrying out G3-stage exploration, including subsurface sampling through core drilling, within the proposed area. AMD has not recommended the proposal in order to avoid duplication of exploration work.
- c. However, AMD has not provided a map depicting the extent of overlap with the proposed block. Accordingly, the Committee sought clarification regarding the status and spatial extent of the overlapping area before taking a decision on the proposal.

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- d. The Committee deferred in-principle consideration of the proposal and decided to keep it in abeyance until AMD provides the requisite map showing the status and extent of the overlapping area.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed block is recommended for further exploration based on G4 Exploration carried out by GSI in FS 2021-22.
2	MECL	Correct .kml file to be provided for further processing
3	AMD	AMD is carrying out G3 stage exploration including sub-surface sampling by core drilling in the proposed area. The proposed block is not recommended to avoid duplication of work.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee deferred in-principle consideration of the proposal and decided to keep it in abeyance until AMD provides the requisite map showing the status and extent of the overlapping area.

**Agenda 97.3.9. Preliminary Exploration (G3) of Bauxite and associated RMs Block in Tumbal Block, District: Latehar, Jharkhand.
(Proposal ID: ME/IN/G3/JH/P/26-27/030)**

[Implementing Agency: IMPCON]


- The proposed block falls in SOI Toposheet No. 73A/02 and exposes lithounits of Chhotanagpur Granite-Gneissic Complex.
- While reviewing the comments received from different agencies, it was observed that the area completely falls under Palamau Tiger Reserve and its ESZ.
- In view of the ESZ status, the Committee did not proceed with the technical presentation by the agency and did not recommend the proposal for approval.

Sl. No.	Agency	Brief Comments
1	GSI	The proposed block overlaps with GSI Exploration (Stage G4) Dumardih & Tukudih block for Bauxite & Ti, V, Ga etc mineralization.
2	MECL	The proposed block has no overlapping with the ongoing or completed projects of MECL.
3	AMD	The proposed block has no overlapping with the AMD's ongoing or completed projects.
4	State DMG/DGM/CGM	Awaited
5	NMEDT	The proposed block falls in ESZ, Wildlife Sanctuary & Tiger Reserve. The proposed block do not overlap with NMEDT funded projects.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee did not approve the proposal as the proposed area completely falls under Palamau Tiger Reserve and its ESZ.

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97.4: Review of Ongoing Exploration Project & Timeline Extension

Agenda 97.4.1. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Iron Ore in Nawagarh-Nelsod-Antagarh area, District Uttar Bastar Kanker, Chhattisgarh.

[Implementing Agency: PRB Infraprojects Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 40th EC Meeting held on 21st February, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 3rd March, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 02.01.2026) and approved cost was Rs.1,16,66,705/-. The timeline was extended upto 31.05.2026.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that DGPS survey, geological mapping, bedrock and channel sampling, chemical analysis have been completed.
- c. The Committee was informed that the project experienced delays due to late receipt of forest clearance, difficult terrain, and dense forest cover. Following the grant of forest clearance, access infrastructure and approach roads were developed to facilitate exploration activities.
- d. The agency informed the Committee that two drilling rigs have been deployed in the project area and drilling operations have commenced in two boreholes.
- e. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and accorded extension of the project timeline up to 31 August 2026 for completion of the remaining exploration activities and submission of the Final Geological Report (GR).

Recommendations of TCC-1:

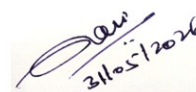
The committee recommended timeline extension up to 31.08.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The timeline extension is recommended for completion of the remaining work and submission of the final Geological Report.

Agenda 97.4.2. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Bauxite and associated minerals in Julrai Block, District- Kachchh, Gujarat.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. The committee was informed that the project was approved in the 40th EC Meeting held on 21st February, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 5th March, 2025 with timeline of 14 months (up to 04.05.2026). The project was approved with a cost of Rs. 2,46,49,379/-.
- b. The project was reviewed in 25th TCC-II meeting, wherein the agency requested conclusion of the project in view of the limited Bauxite occurrence and prevailing field constraints and also requested for approval of submission of the final geological report. The committee recommended the cost revision and pre-closure of the project.
- c. As per recommendations of TCC-II, PSC in its 7th meeting has revised the cost of project to Rs. 77,22,793/-. MECL informed the Geological Report has been peer reviewed.
- d. The committee discussed the peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by the agency.
- e. The agency also sought timeline extension upto 31.05.2026 for submission of final GR

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- f. The Committee recommended that the agency may submit the Final Geological Report (GR) and upload the same on the NGDR Portal within the stipulated timeline.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of final Geological Report. The committee recommended timeline extension up to 31.05.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The timeline extension is recommended for submission of the final Geological Report.

Agenda 97.4.3. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Tungsten & Associated minerals in Bodkipet block (intervening area between Kuhi and Khobna blocks), District- Nagpur, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a. MECL 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 12 months (up to 23.02.2026) and approved cost was INR 4,15,32,062/-. The timeline was extended upto 31.08.2026.
- b. The block was reviewed in the 91st TCC-I meeting held on 26th February 2026 following completion of geological mapping, surface sampling, geophysical surveys, and trenching. The Committee had approved extension of the project timeline and directed the agency to present the progress of work after completion of two boreholes or within three months, whichever was earlier.
- c. The Committee had further clarified that the extended timeline would cover both completion of exploration activities and submission of the peer-reviewed Geological Report (GR).
- d. MECL informed the committee that two boreholes have been completed and two are under progress.
- e. In view of the ongoing cultivation season and the strict project timelines, the agency proposed drilling the remaining seven boreholes to establish the strike and depth continuity of tungsten mineralization associated with the identified greisen zones at level 1. The proposed boreholes are intended to bridge the approximately 800 m gaps between existing scout boreholes and better delineate the mineralized zones.
- f. The agency sought timeline extension for completion of drilling and completion of project.
- g. The Committee suggested the agency to complete drilling within the stipulated period. The request for timeline extension was not approved at this stage. The project shall be reviewed again in the next TCC meeting (July) along with analytical results.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

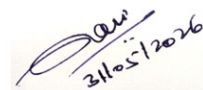
The Committee advised the agency to complete the drilling programme within the stipulated timeline and present the analytical results and interpretation of the boreholes in the upcoming TCC meeting for review.

Agenda 97.4.4. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Limestone in Dongargaon-Kasara Block (5.59 sqkm), 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,

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2025 with timeline of 10 months (i.e up to 22.04.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,22,58,051/-.

- b. 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.
- c. It was further informed that the rig was deployed on 12.03.2026 and drilling commenced on 13.03.2026, with three borehole completed to date. The analytical results of the samples are awaited.
- d. The committee suggested to review the project in the next TCC meeting after obtaining analytical results of three boreholes and interpretation.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee decided that the project would be reviewed in the next TCC meeting after receipt and interpretation of the analytical results from the first three boreholes.

Agenda 97.4.5. Preliminary Exploration of Iron ore and associated minerals in Bamuri Area, Sidhi, MP.

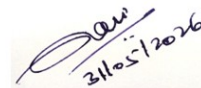
[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. MMPL informed that the project was approved in the 38th EC Meeting held on 29th November, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 6th January, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 05.01.2026) and approved cost was INR 2,86,60,693/-The timeline was extended upto 15.06.2026.
- b. The agency informed that geological mapping, trenching, petrographic study has been completed. Surface sampling has been completed. A total of 200 bedrock/channel samples were collected and analysed, of which 152 samples assayed more than 35% total Fe and 95 samples yielded values exceeding 50% total Fe.
- c. Analytical results of trench samples (100 nos.) is awaited.
- d. The agency informed the Committee that 160 m of drilling has been completed against the assigned target of 1000 m, while analytical results are awaited. The slow progress of drilling was attributed to difficult hilly terrain, dense vegetation, and very hard rock formations encountered in the area.
- e. The agency also informed that the delay in work was also due to delay in forest clearance as well as re-notification issue of agency.
- f. The agency sought timeline extension upto 31.12.2026 for completion of project.
- g. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and observed significant delays in the execution of exploration activities. The Committee advised the agency to expedite the remaining work and ensure timely completion of the project.
- h. The committee agreed for timeline extension upto 30.09.2026 for final GR submission.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension up to 30.09.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The timeline extension is recommended for completion of the work and submission of the final Geological Report.

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Agenda 97.4.6. Preliminary Exploration of Iron ore and associated minerals in Amhawa Area, Sidhi, MP.

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- 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 10th February, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 09.02.2026) and approved cost was INR 3,97,47,192/-. The revised cost of INR 4,08,65,366/- was approved during 43rd EC meeting. The timeline was extended upto 30.06.2026.
- b. The agency informed that Detailed geological mapping (1:4,000 scale) over 2.39 sq. km delineated phyllite, four discontinuous sub-parallel BMQ bands with thicknesses ranging from 5–25 m (average 8–9 m), and ultramafic intrusions; the lithounits exhibit ENE–WSW strikes (N52°E–N70°E) and moderate to steep south-easterly dips (50°–80°).
- c. The agency further informed that a total of approved six first-level boreholes (446 m) were drilled, of which five intersected the BIF band, while no BIF band was encountered in BH-9 due to local concealment by a mafic intrusive body.
- d. The agency apprised the Committee that the boreholes completed at the first level have yielded encouraging results. Based on the drilling results and geophysical anomalies, approval was sought for drilling the remaining four first-level boreholes (272 m) to establish the continuity, thickness, and grade of the BIF mineralization.
- e. The agency also informed that the delay in work was due to delay in forest clearance as well as re-notification issue of agency. The slow progress of drilling was also attributed to difficult hilly terrain, dense vegetation, and very hard rock formations encountered in the area.
- f. The agency also sought timeline extension for completion of work.
- g. The committee reviewed the work carried out by agency and noted that the progress of work is very slow.
- h. The Committee advised the agency to submit a detailed justification, along with documentary evidence, explaining the reasons for the delay and the proactive measures undertaken to expedite project execution. The request for timeline extension will be considered after examination of the submitted justification.
- i. The committee approved drilling of the remaining four first-level boreholes and suggested the agency to come for review in upcoming TCC meeting in June, 2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee advised the agency to submit a detailed justification, supported by documentary evidence, explaining the causes of delay, including proactive measures taken for project execution and correspondence with the Forest Department. The request for timeline extension will be considered after receipt and examination of the submitted justification

Agenda 97.4.7. Reconnaissance Survey for Graphite in Dumburuneli Area, Rayagada, Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: MMPL Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. MMPL Pvt. 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 10 months (up to 09.12.2025) and approved cost was INR 1,37,69,756/-
- b. Timeline extension upto 31.05.2026 was approved during 7th meeting of PSC of NMEDT.
- c. The agency informed the Committee that the assigned quantum of work has been substantially completed, with 462 m of drilling achieved against the target of 500 m.

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A total of 375 samples have been analysed for graphite proximate analysis, and the analytical results have been received.

- d. The agency informed that the drilling work was delayed due to active crop season. All four graphite-bearing zones within the proposed block were under cotton cultivation. The active cultivation period for cotton is from July to January end. During this period, local farmers/tribes did not permit the agency to undertake drilling activities.
- e. The agency presented the inferred graphite resources and informed the Committee that resources of 0.20208 MT, 0.06188 MT, and 0.14399 MT have been estimated for Zone-1, Zone-3, and Zone-4, respectively.
- f. The agency sought timeline extension for analysis of chemical data, report writing, peer review of report and submission of GR.
- g. The committee reviewed the progress of work and agreed for timeline extension.

Recommendations of TCC-1:


The committee recommended timeline extension of 2 months, upto 31.07.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

Agenda 97.4.8. Reconnaissance Survey (G-4 stage) for Graphite and Vanadium in Matena-Sirar Area, Almora District, Uttarakhand.

[Implementing Agency: M/s Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd.]

- a. Geovale 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 12 months up to 20th August 2025 and approved cost was INR 2,60,45,671/-. Timeline was extended upto 31.05.2026 during 4th meeting of PSC.
- b. Timeline extension upto 30.06.2026 was recommended by TCC-I, in its 96th meeting for approval of PSC, NMEDT.
- c. The project was discussed in the 96th TCC meeting, wherein the agency was instructed to submit the Geological Report (GR) for peer review only after complying with the observations and recommendations of the Committee.
- d. The agency informed that the Geological Report (GR) had already been submitted peer reviewed. However, the Committee noted that the agency had not presented the work status before either TCC in any meeting prior to submission of the report for peer review.
- e. The committee discussed the peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by the agency.
- f. The Committee noted that the agency has reported 6.2% Fixed Carbon (FC) over an intercept length of 39 m in one borehole; however, the complete analytical data corresponding to the entire 39 m interval was not available.
- g. The Committee opined that, in the absence of complete analytical data, the results cannot be extrapolated to intervals or zones where analyses have not been carried out or where data are unavailable.
- h. The Committee advised that weighted average should be calculated only for continuous mineralized zones, and that a uniform methodology should be adopted for delineation and weighted average estimation across all boreholes.
- i. The Committee instructed the agency to revise the Geological Report (GR) in accordance with its observations and present the modified report in an upcoming TCC-I meeting before proceeding with its final submission.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee instructed the agency to revise the Geological Report (GR) in accordance with its observations and present the modified report in an upcoming TCC-I meeting before proceeding with its final submission.

Agenda 97.4.9. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Nickel, Chromium & Rare Metals in Vemula Block, YSR (Kadapa) District, Andhra Pradesh.

[Implementing Agency: M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited]


- a. MTCS Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 1st July, 2025 with timeline of 12 months (up to 30.06.2026) and approved cost was INR 4,80,32,955/-.
- a. The agency informed the Committee that geological mapping and gravity-magnetic surveys have been completed, and bedrock/channel samples have been collected and analysed.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the analytical results obtained so far indicate elevated chromium values in the area.
- c. It was further informed that Forest clearance is awaited and hence trenching could not be initiated till now.
- d. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and observed that the geological map prepared by the agency was not satisfactory. The Committee advised the agency to revise and improve the detailed geological map at 1:2,000 scale before further submission.
- e. The Committee advised the agency to undertake comprehensive mapping of the entire mafic-ultramafic complex and clearly delineate the disposition, continuity, and interrelationship of the various lithological layers within the complex.
- f. The Committee further noted that the agency is yet to complete the IP survey, trenching, contouring, and DGPS-based topographic survey. The agency was advised to complete these activities and present the drilling plan for the Committee's approval in the next review.
- g. The Committee advised the agency to undertake detailed geological mapping, petrographic studies, and proper delineation of the mineralized zones before proceeding further. The project shall be reviewed again on or before 15 August 2026.
- h. The Committee also advised the agency to submit all correspondence with the Forest Department, arranged in chronological order, to the NMEDT Secretariat for review and record.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended extension of the project timeline up to 31st August 2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT.

The committee also advised the agency to undertake comprehensive mapping of the entire mafic-ultramafic complex and clearly delineate the disposition, continuity, and interrelationship of the various lithological layers within the complex. The agency was directed to present the progress of work for review by 15th August 2026.

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Agenda 97.4.10. Reconnaissance Survey for gold and associated minerals in Killarhatti area, Koppal & Raichur, Karnataka.

[Implementing Agency: M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited]

- a. MTCS Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 38th EC Meeting held on 29th November, 2024. The Sanction Order was issued on 6th January, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 05.11.2025) and approved cost was INR 3,74,34,976/- Timeline was extended upto 31.08.2026 during 8th PSC meeting.
- b. The agency apprised that due to strong local resistance, work was halted for 3 months. However, the issue is being amicably resolved by agency and the work has resumed.
- c. The Committee noted that, in its 94th meeting, the agency had been instructed to present the trench plan along with the completed geophysical survey results in the subsequent meeting for review and approval.
- d. The agency apprised the Committee that geological mapping, geophysical surveys, and bedrock sampling have been completed. However, the Committee observed that the Induced Polarization (IP) survey is yet to be completed.
- e. The Committee advised the agency to complete the Induced Polarization (IP) survey within fifteen days and integrate the geological, geophysical, geochemical, and analytical datasets. The trenching proposals shall be considered after submission of the integrated results, and the project will be reviewed again in the TCC meeting scheduled in the month of July.

Recommendations of TCC-1:


The committee suggested the agency to carryout IP Survey, integrate geological, geophysical, geochemical and analytical datasets. Trenching proposals shall be reviewed after submission of integrated results. The project will be reviewed again in the month of July.

Agenda 97.4.11. Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Limestone in Dondapadu Block, Dondapadu Cluster-6, Suryapet District, Telangana.

[Implementing Agency: TGMDC]

- a. TGMDC 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 10 months (up to 09.09.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,03,89,286.91/-.
- b. The agency informed that all the assigned target of the project, including detailed mapping (DM) on 1:4000 scale of 8.20 sq. km has been achieved.
- c. The agency further informed that resource estimation was carried out using an average bulk density of 2.65 g/cc.
- d. Resource estimation was undertaken using Thiessen Polygonal method (reducing 30% for cavernous nature). The net resources calculated for Cement grade limestone is 44.98 MT.
- e. It was informed by the agency that the peer review of the report has been completed and the comments of the reviewer has been incorporated in the report. The agency sought approval for submission of final GR and requested for release of 2nd installment of the project.
- f. The peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- g. The committee appreciated the timely completion of the project by TGMDC and agreed for submission of GR.

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Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report.

Agenda 97.4.12. Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Limestone in Veerappagudem Block, Damarcherla Cluster-4, Nalgonda District, Telangana.

[Implementing Agency: TGMDC]

- a. TGMDC 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 10 months (up to 09.09.2026) and approved cost was INR 97,30,613.74/-
- b. The agency informed that all the assigned target of the project, including detailed mapping (DM) on 1:4000 scale of 4.70 sq. km has been achieved.
- c. The agency further informed that resource estimation was carried out using an average bulk density of 2.70 g/cc.
- d. Resource estimation was undertaken using Thiessen Polygonal method (reducing 30% for cavernous nature). The net resources calculated for Cement grade limestone is 210.21 MT and for low-grade limestone (blendable) is 176.36 MT.
- e. It was informed by the agency that the peer review of the report has been completed and the comments of the reviewer has been incorporated in the report. The agency sought approval for submission of final GR and requested for release of 2nd installment of the project.
- f. The peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- g. The committee appreciated the timely completion of the project by TGMDC and agreed for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report.

Agenda 97.4.13. Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Limestone in Ramapuram Block, Ramapuram Cluster-5, Suryapet District, Telangana.

[Implementing Agency: TGMDC]

- a. TGMDC 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 10 months (up to 09.09.2026) and approved cost was INR 92,55,825.64/-.
- b. The agency informed that all the assigned target of the project, including detailed mapping (DM) on 1:4000 scale of 3.18 sq. km has been achieved.
- c. The agency further informed that resource estimation was carried out using an average bulk density of 2.69 g/cc.
- d. Resource estimation was undertaken using Thiessen Polygonal method (reducing 30% for cavernous nature). The net resources calculated for Cement grade limestone is 161.25 MT, Cement grade limestone at depth is 24.90 MT, low-grade limestone (blendable) is 63.36 MT and siliceous limestone (beneficiable) is 7.95 MT.
- e. It was informed by the agency that the peer review of the report has been completed and the comments of the reviewer has been incorporated in the report. The agency sought approval for submission of final GR and requested for release of 2nd installment of the project.

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- f. The peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- g. The committee appreciated the timely completion of the project by TGMDC and agreed for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report.

Agenda 97.4.14. Preliminary Exploration (G3) For Limestone in Yepalamadhavaram Block, Mellacheruvu Cluster-1, Suryapet District, Telangana.

[Implementing Agency: TGMDC]

- a. TGMDC 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 10 months (up to 09.09.2026) and approved cost was INR 89,85,482.77/-.
- b. The agency informed that all the assigned target of the project, including detailed mapping (DM) on 1:4000 scale of 4.313 sq. km has been achieved.
- c. The agency further informed that resource estimation was carried out using an average bulk density of 2.70 g/cc.
- d. Resource estimation was undertaken using Thiessen Polygonal method (reducing 20% for cavernous nature). The net resources calculated for Cement grade limestone is 387.88 MT and low-grade limestone (blendable) is 39.30 MT
- e. It was informed by the agency that the peer review of the report has been completed and the comments of the reviewer has been incorporated in the report. The agency sought approval for submission of final GR and requested for release of 2nd installment of the project.
- f. The peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- g. The committee appreciated the timely completion of the project by TGMDC and agreed for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee agreed for submission of Geological Report.

Agenda 97.4.15. Reconnaissance Survey (G4 Stage) for Iron ore in Yaparlapadu - Dhone Area, Kurnool & Nandyal Districts, Andhra Pradesh.

[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]

- a. CMT informed that the project was approved in the 42nd EC Meeting held on 2nd June, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 1st July, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 30.04.2026) and approved cost was Rs. 1,52,82,042/-.
- b. The agency informed the Committee that the project was delayed due to the late receipt of forest clearance. Forest clearance for undertaking exploration activities, including 33 pits and one drill hole in the Yaparlapadu area of the Dhone Block, Kurnool District, was granted by the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) on 27.02.2026, in compliance with applicable forest and environmental regulations.
- c. The agency informed the Committee that forest clearance for further exploration activities in Nandyal District, comprising 09 pits and 02 drill holes in the Yaparlapadu

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area of the Dhone Block, was granted by the Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) on 15.04.2026, in accordance with applicable forest and environmental regulations.

- d. The Committee noted that during its 95th meeting, the agency was advised to present the borehole plan along with demarcation of limestone and iron ore zones in the subsequent TCC meeting. Accordingly, the agency submitted the borehole plan for the Committee's review and approval.
- e. CMT apprised the Committee that pitting has been completed, including within the forest area, and the collected samples have been dispatched for laboratory analysis.
- f. The agency sought an extension of four months to complete the remaining drilling, laboratory analysis, data synthesis, report preparation, submission of the Geological Report (GR) to NMEDT, and uploading of the report on the NGDR Portal.
- g. The committee reviewed the progress of work and approved the drilling plan. The committee also recommended timeline extension upto 31.08.2026.
- h. The agency further informed the committee that some rectification in originally approved cost sheet is needed. The committee suggested the agency to come in forthcoming TCC for rectification of cost sheet.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 31.08.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The extension of timeline is recommended for completion of work and submission of GR.

Agenda 97.4.16. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE and Associated Minerals in Maddur area, Narayanpet District, Telangana.

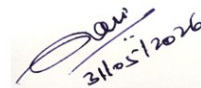
[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]

- a. Critical Mineral Trackers informed that the project was approved in the 43rd EC meeting held on 14th August, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 4th September, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 03.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,31,12,292/-.
- b. The project was reviewed in the 91st TCC-I meeting, wherein the agency apprised the Committee that geological mapping over 160 sq. km at 1:12500 scale had been completed and 115 bedrock samples (BRS) had been collected.
- c. The proposed block is predominantly underlain by multiple intrusive phases of granitic rocks, which are subsequently intruded by pegmatite and quartz veins along fractures and joint planes.
- d. Grey biotite granite constitutes the dominant lithology in the central part of the block, while pink granite occurring in the northern and southern parts represents a younger intrusive phase.
- e. As the analytical results were not encouraging, the Committee recommended closure of the project without undertaking drilling. The agency was advised to complete the interpretation of available data, submit the Final Geological Report (GR), and conclude the project within the approved timeline.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended closure of the project without drilling and advised the agency to complete data interpretation, submit the Final Geological Report (GR), and conclude the project within the approved timeline.

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Agenda 97.4.17. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for REE, Ni, Co and PGE in Podili area, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh.

[Implementing Agency: Critical Mineral Trackers]

- a. Critical Mineral Trackers informed that the project was approved in the 43rd EC Meeting held on 14th August, 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 4th September, 2025 with timeline of 10 months (up to 03.07.2026) and approved cost was INR 1,90,21,860/-.
- b. The agency presented the progress of work and informed the Committee that large-scale mapping (LSM) covering 210 sq. km at 1:12,500 scale has been completed. A total of 200 bedrock samples (BRS) have been collected, and the pitting and trenching components have also been completed.
- c. The agency presented the geochemical plots of the analysed samples and informed the Committee that 11 thin sections have been prepared and studied for petrographic characterization.
- d. The Committee noted that during its 91st meeting, the agency had been advised to present the analytical results of Ni, Co, and PGE in the subsequent review for comprehensive assessment of the mineralization potential.
- e. The Committee reviewed the progress of work and advised the agency to present the proposed borehole plan, pit/trench profiles with plotted analytical values, and an improved geological map in the upcoming meeting of TCC-I.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee recommended that the agency present the borehole plan, pit/trench profiles with plotted analytical values, and an improved geological map in the next TCC meeting for further review and approval.

Agenda 97.4.18. Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Glauconite Sandstone in Magarlod area, Dhamtari District, Chhattisgarh.

[Implementing Agency: DGM Chhattisgarh]

- a. The agency did not attend meeting, so review could not be done.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The project could not be reviewed as the agency did not attend the meeting.

Agenda 97.4.19. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Manganese in Rongha block, Bhandara District, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: DGM Maharashtra]

- a. DGM Maharashtra informed that the project was approved in the 25th EC Meeting held on 29th June, 2022. The sanction order was issued on 27th July, 2022 with timeline of 15 months and approved cost was INR 90,17,446.72/-.
- b. The Committee noted that, in its 78th meeting, TCC-I had recommended closure of the project subject to submission of a formal communication from DGM, Maharashtra. Subsequently, in its 79th meeting, TCC-I considered the communication regarding delays in execution, and recommended the revised project cost of ₹57.52 lakh along with pre-closure. Timeline extension upto 30.09.2025 was also recommended for submission of the Geological Report (GR).

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- c. Based on recommendations of TCC, PSC in its 1st meeting approved the timeline extension upto 30.09.2025. Also during 3rd meeting, PSC also approved pre-closure and revision of cost as recommended by TCC.
- d. DGM Maharashtra informed the Committee that the Geological Report (GR) has been prepared and sought approval for its submission for peer review, along with extension of the project timeline up to 30.06.2026.
- e. The committee agreed for submission of GR for peer review. The committee also recommended timeline extension upto 30.06.2026 for submission of GR.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee agreed to the submission of the Geological Report (GR) for peer review and recommended extension of the project timeline up to 30.06.2026 for submission of the final GR.

Agenda 97.4.20. Preliminary exploration for Limestone in Savalhira block (4.04 sq. km), Chandrapur District, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: DGM Maharashtra]

- a. DGM Maharashtra informed that the project was approved in the 25th EC Meeting held on 29th June, 2022. The sanction order was issued on 27th July, 2022 with timeline of 15 months and approved cost was INR 73,72,848/-. Timeline was extended upto 30.09.2025 in 1st PSC meeting.
- b. The project was reviewed in 78th TCC-I meeting, wherein it was informed that detailed geological mapping of 4.04 sq. km and collection and analysis of 400 samples (380 from BH and 20 BRS) was completed.
- c. TCC-I in its 78th meeting has recommended the closure of item, subject to submission of formal letter by DGM Maharashtra. EC in its 43rd meeting has approved pre-closure of the project.
- d. The revision of cost of project from Rs. 73.73 lakh to Rs. 83.77 lakh was approved by PSC in its 1st meeting. PSC in its 1st meeting also approved the timeline extension upto 30.09.2025.
- e. DGM Maharashtra informed the committee the GR has been prepared and sought approval for submission of the same for Peer review and timeline extension upto 30.6.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The Committee agreed to the submission of the Geological Report (GR) for peer review and recommended extension of the project timeline up to 30.06.2026 for submission of the final GR.

Agenda 97.4.21. Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Stage) for limestone in Chokkanathapuram Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu.

[Implementing Agency: Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions]

- 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 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 30.04.2026 in 8th PSC meeting.

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- b. The agency apprised the committee that the report has been peer reviewed and the comments of reviewer has been incorporated in the report.
- c. The peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- d. The agency sought approval for submission of final GR and timeline extension upto 15th June, 2026.
- e. The committee agreed for submission of GR and also recommended timeline extension upto 15.06.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 15.06.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

Agenda 97.4.22. Preliminary exploration (G3 stage) for limestone in Kulumur Block, Ariyalur and Perambalur Districts, Tamil Nadu.

[Implementing Agency: Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions]

- 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 10th 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 30.04.2026 in 8th PSC meeting.
- b. The agency apprised the committee that the report has been peer reviewed and the comments of reviewer has been incorporated in the report.
- c. The peer reviewer's comments and their compliance by agency was discussed.
- d. The agency sought approval for submission of final GR and timeline extension upto 15th June, 2026.
- e. The committee agreed for submission of GR and also recommended timeline extension upto 15.06.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 15.06.2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. Timeline extension is recommended for submission of GR.

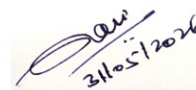
97.5 Review of Special Studies Projects

Agenda 97.5.1. Undertaking geochemical analysis of mine samples of Siwana Ring Complex, Rajasthan by IBM through NMEDT fund.

[Implementing Agency: IBM]

- a. IBM informed that the project was approved in the 6th PSC Meeting held on 02nd March, 2026. The project was sanctioned on 30th March, 2026 with timeline of 03 months. The project was approved for cost of Rs. 70.01 lakhs.
- b. IBM informed the Committee that sampling has been completed in all 116 quarry leases. A total of 215 samples were collected and sent to MECL, Nagpur for geochemical analysis, and analytical results comprising major oxides for all 215 samples and REE/critical trace element data for 135 samples have been received.
- c. It was further informed that analytical results for the remaining 80 samples for REE and critical elements from MECL are awaited, along with the results of 21 check samples submitted to the MPD Laboratory, IBM Nagpur.
- d. IBM apprised the Committee that geochemical investigations revealed significant enrichment of Rare Earth Elements (REEs) and associated critical minerals in the study area, with total REE (including Sc and Y) values ranging from 359 ppm to

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6263 ppm, Light REE (La–Sm) from 211 ppm to 5533 ppm, Heavy REE (Eu–Lu) from 71 ppm to 674 ppm, and individual element concentrations reaching up to 1700 ppm La, 2300 ppm Ce, and 1100 ppm Nd.

- e. IBM further informed the Committee that, besides REEs, significant enrichment of associated critical minerals has also been observed, with zirconium (Zr) values ranging from 0.12% to 1.34%, hafnium (Hf) from 26 ppm to 410 ppm, and thorium (Th) from approximately 3 ppm to 152 ppm.
- f. IBM sought timeline extension of one month i.e., upto 10.07.2026 for completion of the project and submission of the final report.
- g. The Committee reviewed the proposal and appreciated the significant enrichment of REEs and associated critical minerals indicated by the geochemical results from the study area.
- h. The committee also agreed for timeline extension upto 31.07.2026.

Recommendations of TCC-1:

The committee recommended timeline extension upto 31st July, 2026 for approval of PSC, NMEDT. The timeline extension is recommended for GR submission.

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Annexure 1

List of participants who attended the 97th Meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committee (TCC-I) of NMEDT held on 25th and 26th May 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	Smt. Vandana	Cost Accounts Officer, RSAS, Bangalore, GSI	vandana@gsi.in	8660939235	Member TCC-1
9	Shri S Dhanendran	Director, GSITI & Member Secretary, TCC-I	s.dhanendran@gsi.gov.in	9944882204	Member Secretary TCC-1
10	Venkatasubramanian M.	TAE- Principle Consultant	venkatjee2000@gmail.com, Venkat.m@bmrctgroup.com	9845261062	BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt Ltd
11	Balkrishan Vishawakarma	Senior Consultant (Geology)	geology@bmrctgroup.com, balkrishan.vishawakarma@bmrctgroup.com	9651143638	BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt Ltd
12	Akash Shukla	Senior Geologist	akash.shukla@bmrctgroup.com	7995983212	BMRC Geomining Solution Pvt Ltd
13	Binusarma P. E.	Senior Geologist	dir.mon8@gsi.gov.in	7597464362	Geological Survey of India, CHQ, Kolkata
14	OP Jangid	Senior Geologist	adghq.mg@rajasthan.gov.in	7014276783	DMG Rajasthan, Udaipur
15	Mr. Milind Dhakate	PC	milindhakate@gmail.com	7085622980	PRB INFRAPROJECT PVT LTD.

S. Ravi, 31.05.26

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16	J Dileep Kumar	Senior Geologist	dileep.kumar@kartikay.co.in	8956919711	KARTIKAY EXPLORATION AND MINING SERVICES PVT LTD
17	Pradeep Kulkarni	GM EXPLORATION	p.kulkarni@kartikay.co.in	8319364061	KARTIKAY EXPLORATION AND MINING SERVICES PVT LTD
18	Dr. Raj Narayan Yadav	Consultant (Geology)	impcon.kolkata@gamil.com	9831107623	Indian Mine Planners & consultants
19	Dr Suman Krishna Sit	Senior VP	suman.krishna@maheshwaree.com		MMPL Pvt Ltd
20	Sourbah Sarkar	GM EXPLORATION	sourabh.sarkar@maheshwaree.com		MMPL Pvt Ltd
21	Moulipriya Bhakta	Dy. Manager	moulipriya.bhakta@maheshwaree.com		MMPL Pvt Ltd
22	Subhajit Chakraborty	Geologist	subhajit.chakraborty@maheshwaree.in		MMPL Pvt Ltd
23	Dr. Subhendu Mondal	DGM & Head - Surface Geophysics	subhendu.mondal@maheshwaree.com		MMPL Pvt Ltd
24	Shravya Mehta	Geologist	shravya.mehta@maheshwaree.in		MMPL Pvt Ltd
25	Rupan Roy	Senior Geologist	rupan.roy@maheshwaree.in		MMPL Pvt Ltd
26	Syamantak Pal	Geologist	syamantak.pal@maheshwaree.in	9836703803	MMPL Pvt Ltd
27	Sudev Mahato	Geologist	sudev.mahato@maheshwaree.in		MMPL Pvt Ltd
28	Dr. M. Ifthikhar Ahmed	Managing Partner	ifthiahmed@gmail.com	9442278601	Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions
29	N. S. Syed Roshan	Geologist	syedroshan4050@gmail.com	9488124032	Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions
30	P. Praveen Kumar	Director	praveen@geomarinesolutions.in	8277363919	Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

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31	A.C. Dinesh	Chief Technology Officer	oed@geomarinesolutions.in	9038534560	Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
32	Ms.Aparna C.V.	Geophysicist	mail@geomarinesolutions.in	9061467262	Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
33	S.Rama Murthy	Technical Area Expert	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	9490685131	Critical Mineral Trackers
34	Dr.K.Mahender Reddy	Technical Area Expert	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	9032012955	Critical Mineral Trackers
35	S.Sumanth	Team Member	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	8374417797	Critical Mineral Trackers
36	D.Prem Kumar	Team Member	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	6300914850	Critical Mineral Trackers
37	H R Arvinth Kumar	Geologist	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	8077860054	Critical Mineral Trackers
38	Mansi Kesarwani	Assistant Manager (Geoscience Strategy)	mansi@geoexpore.com	9591167745	GeoExpOre Private Limited
39	Mohammad Muslemeen	Senior Geologist	mohammad@geoexpore.com	-	GeoExpOre Private Limited
40	Uvaraj M	Junior Geologist	uvaraj@geoexpore.com	-	GeoExpOre Private Limited
41	Dr. Suparna Goswami	Sr. Project Manager (Exploration)	suparna.goswami@geovale.com	9874320018	Geovale Service Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
42	Dr. Taraknath Pal	Associate Principal (Exploration)	taraknath.pal@geovale.com	6300985508	Geovale Service Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata
36	Representatives from MECL				
37	Representatives from IBM				
38	Representatives from GEMS Project Pvt. Ltd.				
39	Representatives from DMM West Bengal				
40	Representatives from DMG Arunachal Pradesh				
41	Representatives from M/s Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited				
42	Representatives from TGMDC				
43	Representatives from DGM Maharashtra				
44	Ms. Bishakha	Senior Geologist	sr.geologist1-nmet@gov.in	8126541605	NMEDT
45	Smt. Palak Kapoor	Senior Geologist	sr.geologist4-nmet@gov.in	8851742488	NMEDT

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