

**Ministry of Mines\_  
National Mineral Exploration & Development Trust  
Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical-cum-Cost Committee - II (TCC - II)  
held on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2025**

The 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical-cum-Cost Committee – II (TCC - II) of National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) was held through video conferencing under the Chairmanship of Shri Pradeep Singh, Deputy Director General (DDG), Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Chairman, TCC-II, NMEDT held on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2025.

Members of TCC-II, NMEDT and representatives from M/s Ocean Drilling & Exploration Private Limited, Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), M/s Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Private Limited, M/s Maheshwari Mining Private Limited (MMPL), DGM Mizoram, M/s Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Private Limited, M/s Critical Mineral Trackers (CMT), M/s Gemcokati Private Limited etc. have attended the meeting through video conferencing mode.

The list of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

Shri Pradeep Singh, DDG, GSI and Chairman, TCC-II, NMEDT warmly welcomed all TCC-II members and every participant representing from State DGMS, Notified Exploration Agencies (NEAs) and Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs).

**Agenda 15.1 Technical Evaluation of New Project Proposals**

**Agenda 15.1.1 Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Vanadium, Graphite, Barium and associated mineral in Madlak area, Champawat District, Uttarakhand.  
[Implementing Agency: M/s Ocean Drilling & Exploration Private Limited]**

- a) The proposed area of 51.0 sq. km, for reconnaissance survey (G4), is located on Survey of India Toposheet No. 62C/3 and 62C/7 and falls within parts of Champawat District, Uttarakhand. The project was accorded in-principal approval during the 13th TCC-II meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025.
- b) The table containing the comments is given below.

S.N.	Agency	Comment
1	GSI	GSI informed that preliminary exploration (G3 stage, M2ASMIF-MEP/NC/NR/SU-UK/2025/53944) for vanadium is being carried out by GSI in field season 2025-26 in parts of Toposheet no - 62C/03 and lying west of Champawat and the proposed block. However, the area is not overlapping with the proposed block.
2	DGM Uttarakhand	DGM, Uttarakhand informed that the block proposed by M/s Ocean Drilling & Exploration Pvt. Ltd. does not overlap with any existing blocks and that there is no ongoing exploration activity by DGM Uttarakhand in the proposed area.
3	MECL	MECL informed that the proposed Madlak block does not overlap with any of current and previous exploration work of MECL.

- c) The agency has already one approved project “Preliminary exploration (G3) for Potash in Ramsara-Amarnkot Dalmir Khara Block, Fazilka District, Punjab” This exploration block of 10.30 sq. km. area, falls in Survey of India Toposheet numbers 44J/04.

- d) As per the information available on the QCI-NABET website, presently, Ocean Drilling & Exploration Private Limited has a limited technical team comprising two geologists, one geophysicist, and one remote sensing expert. Considering the available manpower, the committee observed that the agency is capable of executing only one project at a time. Accordingly, the project has been deferred until the agency recruits additional qualified personnel to ensure effective execution of new projects.

### **Recommendation TCC-II**

The committee decided to defer the project until the agency augments its team by recruiting additional manpower to ensure effective and timely execution of the work.

### **Agenda 15.1.2 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Aluminous Laterite, Titanium, Vanadium, Gallium and associated minerals in Sansarpur Block, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.**

**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) The proposed area of 7.19 sq. km., for Preliminary Exploration (G3) falls in Survey of India Toposheet number 64A/6. in parts of Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.
- b) The table containing the comments is given below.

S.N.	Agency	Comment
1	GSI	<b>No comment required</b> , this block has been carved out from the Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron, Manganese and associated minerals in Tikariya Block Districts: Katni, State Madhya Pradesh by MECL
2	DGM Madhya Pradesh.	

- c) MECL (2024-25) conducted G-4 exploration in Tikariya G-4 block over an area of 58.7 sq km and carried out Geological Mapping(1:12,500scale), Channel sampling, Trenching and drilling by 12 scout boreholes. The proposed block lies in the western part of the Tikariya G-4 block in which following Reconnaissance resources (334 category) has been reported –

Particulars	Reconnaissance Resource (mT)	Average Grade
Aluminous Laterite ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ )	14.81	26.30%
Titanium ( $\text{TiO}_2$ )	15.45	3.48%
Vanadium (V)	12.32	642.71 ppm
Gallium (Ga)	2.44	57.70 ppm

- d) Out of 12 boreholes, 10 boreholes have shown promising results. Among 10 positive BH, 5 of them falls in the proposed Sansarpur G-3 block.

BH No.	Zone thickness (m)			
	$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (>20%)	$\text{TiO}_2$ (>2%)	V (>500 ppm)	Ga (>50 ppm)
TKRBH-01	10.00	11.00	11.00	
TKRBH-02	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
TKRBH-05	12.00	12.00	14.00	
TKRBH-06	17.00	11.80	14.20	
TKRBH-12	12.15	12.15	12.15	2.00

- e) Grade in 5 BH falling in the proposed boreholes ranges as follows-

Particulars	Range
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (%)	23.60-32.27
TiO <sub>2</sub> (%)	3.01-4.15
V (ppm)	511-766
Ga (ppm)	58-61

- f) 5 Boreholes falling in the proposed Sansarpur G-3 block have given following resources (334 category) –

Particulars	Reconnaissance Resource (mT)	Average Grade
Aluminous Laterite Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (%)	8.97	26.35%
Titanium TiO <sub>2</sub> (%)	8.61	3.55%
Vanadium V (ppm)	9.17	646.33 ppm
Gallium Ga (ppm)	2.06	58.35 ppm

- g) The committee, after examining the geological data and exploration proposal, recommended the drilling of five boreholes in the first phase. Out of these, four boreholes with depth of up to 30 meters each and one borehole with depth of up to 50 meters/up to lithomarge (whichever is earlier) were approved.
- h) The TCC-II opined that the proposal would be reviewed after the results of five boreholes in the first phase.

**Recommendation TCC-II**

***The committee recommended the proposal for approval of PSC for “Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Aluminous Laterite, Titanium, Vanadium, Gallium and associated minerals in Sansarpur Block, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.” with an estimated cost of ₹ 139.87 Lakh (including GST) within the time schedule of 12 months and submission of the report as per Annexures 2A & 2B. The item will be reviewed after 4 months & 8 months.***

**Estimated Cost for Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Aluminous Laterite, Titanium, Vanadium, Gallium and associated minerals in Sansarpur Block,**  
**District: Katni, State: Madhya Pradesh**  
**Block area- 7.19 sq. km; No of BH:17 (16 BH x 30m and 1 BH x 50m) Total Drilling : 530 m**  
**Schedule timeline- 12 months, Review: after 04 months & 8 months.**  
**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

Sl. No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMET SoC 2020-21		Estimated Cost of the Proposal		Remarks
			SoC- Item- S. No.	23Q	Qty.	Total Amount (Rs)	
<b>A</b>	<b>GEOLOGICAL WORK</b>						
<b>1</b>	<b>Geological Mapping (1:4000)</b>						
	Geologist man days (1 No.) for Geological map & Report (HQ)	days	1.1b	9,000	60	5,40,000	
	a) Geologist man days for Detailed Geological mapping/Channel Sampling/ Trenching, Drilling	days	1.2	11,000	150	16,50,000	
	b) Labour (field)	per worker	5.7	541	300	1,62,300	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher
	c) Sampler for Surface Samples/ Trench Samples / Core Samples Labour charge not included (1 sampler)	day	1.5.2	5100	80	4,08,000	Total 890 Nos of Samples / 8 Nos of sample per day =121
	d) 4 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	day	5.7	541	320	1,73,120	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher
<b>2</b>	<b>Survey</b>						

i	Bore Hole Fixation and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level of the boreholes and Boundary points by DGPS	Per Point of observation	1.6.2	19,200	22	4,22,400	17 Core Drilling Boreholes + 5 Boundary Points = 22
ii	Charges of one qualified surveyor with Total Station for carrying out topographical survey in different RF and surface contouring at different interval	days	1.6.1a	8,300	30	2,49,000	Contouring at 2 m interval for preparation of base map on 1:4000 scale
iii	4 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	days	5.7	541	120	64,920	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher
	<b>Sub-Total A</b>					<b>36,69,740</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>Trenching</b>						
i	Trenching	Cu m	2.1.1	3330	100	3,33,000	10m x1m x1m
ii	Pitting		2.1.2	3800	50	1,90,000	
	<b>Sub-Total B</b>					<b>5,23,000</b>	
<b>C</b>	<b>DRILLING</b>						
i	Core Drilling upto 300m Soft Rock	per m	2.2.1.4a	7,168	530	37,99,040	In the 1st phase - 4 BH(30m) + 1 deep BH up to parent rock/50m whichever is earlier In the 2nd Phase-12 BH
ii	Land / Crop Compensation (in case the BH falls in agricultural Land)	per BH	5.6	20,000	17	3,40,000	Amount will be reimbursed as per actuals or max. Rs. 20000 per BH with certification from local authorities
iii	Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30")	per borehole	2.2.7a	2,000	17	34,000	
iv	Borehole plugging by cement	m	2.2.7b	150	530	79,500	

v	Transportation of Drill Rig & Truck associated per drill	Km	2.2.8	36	720	25,920	1 Rig Transport, 360 Km from Nagpur to Sansarpur
vi	Monthly Accommodation Charges for drilling Camp (Rs 50000/- per Month)	month	2.2.9	50,000	5	2,50,000	1 Rig Operation
vii	Drilling Camp Setting Cost	Nos	2.2.9a	2,50,000	1	2,50,000	
viii	Drilling Camp Winding up Cost	Nos	2.2.9b	2,50,000	1	2,50,000	
ix	Road Making (Flat Terrain)	Km	2.2.10a	22,020	5	1,10,100	Amount will be recalculated after Completion of Tender Process
x	Drill Core Preservation	per m	5.3	1,590	260	4,13,400	
	<b>Sub Total- C</b>					<b>55,51,960</b>	
<b>D</b>	<b>LABORATORY STUDIES</b>						
<b>1</b>	<b>Chemical Analysis</b>						
i	<b>Primary Samples for Total Fe, Total Mn, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, Cao, SiO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub> &amp; LOI</b>	Nos	4.1.15a	4200	500	21,00,000	Trench Samples-100, Pit Samples-50, BH Samples-350 (the analysis includes acid insoluble also)
ii	2 additional elements (Va, Ga)	Nos	4.1.15b	842	500	4,21,000	Trench Samples-100, Pit Samples-50, BH Samples-350
i.a	<b>Check samples for Total Fe, Total Mn, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, Cao, SiO<sub>2</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub> &amp; LOI</b>	Nos	4.1.15a	4200	50	2,10,000	10% of primary samples
ii.a	Check samples 2 additional elements (Va, Ga)	Nos	4.1.15b	842	50	42,100	10% of primary samples
iii	34 elements studies by ICP-MS (Sc, Y, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Hf, Ta, Rb, Zr, Ge, Sr, Sn, As, Be, Nb, Mo, Cu, Pb, Zn, Li, Cs, Co & Ni)	per sample	4.1.14	7731	50	3,86,550	
iv	Au-Ag by fire assay	per sample	4.1.5	2380	10	23,800	

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Petrological / Mineralographic studies</b>						
	a) Preparation of thin section	per sample	4.3.1	2,353	10	23,530	
	b) Study of thin section for petrography	per sample	4.3.4	4,232	10	42,320	
	c) Preparation of polished section	Nos	4.3.2	1,549	10	15,490	
	d) Complete mineragraphic study report	Nos	4.3.4	4,232	10	42,320	
	e) Digital photomicrograph of thin & polished section	per sample	4.3.7	280	10	2,800	
<b>3</b>	XRD Mineral Phase Analysis	per sample	4.5.1	4,000	20	80,000	
<b>4</b>	Density	Nos	4.8.3	1,568	10	15,680	
	<b>Sub-Total D</b>					<b>13,05,590</b>	
	<b>Total (A TO D)</b>					<b>1,10,50,290</b>	
<b>E</b>	<b>Geological Report Preparation</b>	<b>Nos</b>	<b>5.2</b>	For the projects having cost exceeding Rs. 50 lakhs but less than 150 lakhs - A minimum of Rs. 2.5 lakhs or 5% of the value of work whichever is more		<b>5,52,515</b>	Reimbursement will be made after submission of the final Geological Report in Hard Copies (5 Nos) and the soft copy to NMET.

<b>F</b>	<b>Preparation of Exploration Proposal</b>	<b>Nos</b>	<b>5.1</b>	2% or Rs. 500000 whichever is less	<b>1</b>	<b>2,21,006</b>	EA has to submit the Hard Copies and the soft copy of the final proposal along with Maps and Plan as suggested by the TCC-NMET in its meeting while clearing the proposal.
<b>G</b>	<b>Report Peer Review Charges</b>	<b>lumpsum</b>	<b>As per EC decision</b>	<b>30000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30,000</b>	
<b>H</b>	<b>Total Estimated Cost without GST</b>					<b>1,18,53,810</b>	
<b>I</b>	<b>Provision for GST (18%)</b>					<b>21,33,686</b>	GST will be reimbursed as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate
<b>J</b>	<b>Total Estimated Cost with GST</b>					<b>1,39,87,496</b>	
					<b>Say, in Lakhs</b>	<b>139.87</b>	

Note:

1	Strict adherence to the Ministry of Finance's and GFR guidelines is mandatory. Every transaction must adhere to GFR rule 21.
2	In case of delay/non- performance, the appropriate action will be taken by competent authority against delinquent agency as per prevailing govt. of India rules/guidelines on procurement
3	If any part of the project is outsourced, the amount will be reimbursed as per the Paragraph 3 of NMET SoC and Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In case of execution of the project by NEA on its own, a Certificate regarding non outsourcing of any component/project is required.
4	Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.
5	Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.
6	All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency






**Estimated timeline for Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Aluminous Laterite, Titanium (Ti O<sub>2</sub>), Vanadium (V), Gallium (Ga) and associated minerals in Sansarpur Block, District: Katni, State: Madhya Pradesh [Block area- 7.19 sq. km; Schedule timeline- 12 months]**

S. No.	Particulars	Months/ Days	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Camp Setting	months					Review					Review			
2	Geological Mapping & Trenching	months													
3	Topographic Survey	months													
4	Core Drilling	m													
5	BH Core Sampling	Nos													
6	Camp winding	months													
7	Laboratory Studies	months													
8	Report Writing with Peer Review	months													




**Agenda 15.1.3 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Aluminous Laterite, Titanium (TiO<sub>2</sub>), Vanadium (V), Gallium (Ga) and Associated Minerals in Saraswahi Block, Katni, District, Madhya Pradesh.**

**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) The proposed area of 6.38 sq. km., for Preliminary Exploration (G3) falls in Survey of India Toposheet number 64A/06. in parts of Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.
- b) The table containing the comments is given below.

S.N.	Agency	Comment
1	GSI	<b>No comment required</b> , this block has been carved out from the Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron, Manganese and associated minerals in Tikariya Block Districts: Katni, State Madhya Pradesh by MECL
2	DGM Madhya Pradesh.	

- c) This project has been carved out from the previous Reconnaissance Survey (G-4) for Iron, Manganese, and associated minerals carried out by MECL in the Tikariya Block, Katni District, Madhya Pradesh.
- d) The TCC-II opined that two G-3 stage projects carved out from the same Tikariya Block cannot be taken up simultaneously. Therefore, the committee decided to defer the proposal of this G-3 block until the results of the Sansarpur G-3 block are received and reviewed.

***Recommendation TCC-II***

***The committee deferred the proposal until the results of the first phase of the adjacent Sansarpur G-3 block are reviewed.***

**Agenda 15.1.4 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite, Vanadium, Titanium and Associated minerals in Rudni Pat Block, Lohardaga District, Jharkhand.**

**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) The proposed exploration block, covering an area of 1.10 sq. km, is located on Survey of India Toposheet No. 73A/10 and falls within parts of Lohardaga District, Jharkhand. Major part of the block lies in Rudni Pat Reserve Forest with Open jungle.
- b) In 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of TCC-II this proposal was recommended for approval of PSC for "Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Bauxite, Vanadium, Titanium and Associated minerals in Rudni Pat block, Lohardaga District, Jharkhand" with an estimated cost of ₹ 205.10 Lakh (including GST) within the time schedule of 15 months. Drilling of total 760m in 24 boreholes with average depth of 30m each in 22 boreholes and 50m depth in 2 boreholes was recommended. Out of which, initially, only 8 boreholes with depth of 30m each and 1 borehole with 50m depth was advised the subsequent drilling to be decided after review.
- c) In the first PSC meeting, the committee reviewed the proposal and observed that the proposed area of only 1.10 sq. km, the estimated cost of ₹205.10 lakh (including GST) and the proposed completion timeline of 15 months, were not adequately justified. Accordingly, the PSC decided to defer the project and referred the proposal back to TCC-II for re-evaluation of the cost and timeline.
- d) In the presentation made by MECL, it was informed that the drilling shift will run only for 8 hours/day because of the Law & Order problem prevailing in the area. The average output in the nearby Siskari Pat block (around 3 – 3.5 km away) is 3m to 4m

per shift per day under conducive conditions. Further, as the bauxite is irregular and discontinuous in nature with clay pockets, dry drilling has to be carried out to achieve 90 – 95% core recovery and avoid chances of washout of clay pockets. The drilling of 24 boreholes with grid spacing of 200m x 200m with total quantum of 760m at an estimated cost of ₹205.10 Lakh (including GST) is as per the MEMC rule and is justified. The committee was satisfied with the presentation made by the MECL. However, MECL was requested to submit a detailed justification for the proposed timeline of 15 months. The justification may be provided by MECL before the next PSC meeting.

**Recommendation TCC-II**

**The Committee advised MECL to submit a justification to NMEDT for the proposed project timeline of 15 months. The justification may be put up before the PSC for a final decision on the project.**

**Agenda 15.1.5 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in south of Gadola Block, Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan.**

**&**

**Agenda 15.1.6 Reconnaissance survey (G4) for Limestone in Gadola Area, Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Bhusilp Mines and Minerals Pvt. Ltd]**

- The proposed area for preliminary exploration (G3), covering 40 sq. km, falls within Survey of India Toposheet no. 45L/10 & 45L/14, in parts of Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan.
- The proposed area for Reconnaissance survey (G4), covering 10 sq. km, falls within Survey of India Toposheet no. 45L/10 & 45L/14, in parts of Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan.
- These two projects have been carved out from the report SFA-1243 titled A report on the exploration of Cement grade limestone around Gadola village, Nimbahera Tehsil, Chittorgarh District, Rajasthan, allotted to the agency from shortlisted legacy reports of various state DGMS/DMGs for upgradation through NMEDT funds (3rd Joint TCC dated 4.9.2025)
- The table containing the comments is given below.

S.N.	Agency	Comment
1	GSI	Informed that the proposed NPEA block, no exploration work has been carried out by GSI in the proposed block. However, the Department of Mines and Geology (DMG), Rajasthan, had earlier undertaken exploration for limestone in the area. As per the DMG report and geological map (Plate II), Regional Geological Mapping was conducted on a 1:10,000 scale. DMG also drilled eight boreholes (GDH-1 to GDH-8) in the area. Among these, GDH-1, GDH-4, and GDH-7 indicate potential for cement-grade limestone, though high silica content (>15 20%) was observed in these boreholes. The remaining boreholes (GDH-2, GDH-3, GDH-5, GDH-6, and GDH-8) do not show potential for cement-grade limestone due to low CaO percentages in most of the core samples. the same area may not be

		suitable for a G4 stage investigation for the same commodity.
2	DMG Rajasthan	Comments were pending at the time of the meeting.
3	MECL	Informed that the proposed south of Gadola and Gadola block does not overlap with any of current and previous exploration work of MECL.

- e) The TCC-II opined that comments/consent of DMG Rajasthan are required for assessment of this proposal. The committee suggested that comments from DMG Rajasthan to be requested by NMEDT.

***Recommendation TCC-II***

***The committee deferred the proposal till receipt of comments/consent from DMG Rajasthan.***

**Agenda 15.1.7 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for graphite in Ranibandh Block, Bankura District, West Bengal.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Maheshwari Mining Private Limited (MMPL)]**

- The proposed area for preliminary exploration (G3), covering 2.5 sq. km, falls within Survey of India Toposheet no. 73J/13, in parts of Bankura District, West Bengal.
- M/s Maheshwari Mining Private Limited (MMPL) informed that the present exploration program (G3) has been formulated on the basis of the outcomes of G4 stage of investigation for graphite in this area done by MMPL. In Zone-A, resource of 0.898 million tonnes has been estimated by MMPL at average weighted FC range of 2.15-9.56%. In Zone-B, resource of 0.483 million tonnes has been estimated by MMPL at average weighted FC range of 3.08-8.69%. Total resource for graphite in Ranibandh block (including Zone-A and Zone-B) estimated as 1.38 million tonnes with FC more than 2% (FC%  $\geq$  2%).
- The TCC-II suggested MMPL to carryout detailed mapping on scale of 1:4000, SP Survey to examine gap areas to ascertain continuation of graphite at sub-surface. 1<sup>st</sup> Level 11 BHs, at 30m vertical depth at 200 m spacing and 2<sup>nd</sup> Level 6 BHs, at 60m vertical depth at 400 m spacing.
- NMEDT secretariat informed that the implementing agency needs to update the details of their in-house geophysical instruments under the QCI-NABET website.
- The TCC-II opined that defer the costing of the project proposal till the agency updates its details of in-house geophysical instruments under the QCI-NABET website.

***Recommendation TCC-II***

***The committee deferred the proposal till the agency updates the details of in-house geophysical instruments under the NABET scheme.***

## **Agenda 15.2 Review of Ongoing Procurement Projects & Timeline Extension**

### **Agenda 15.2.1 Financial Assistance from NMEDT funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.**

**[Implementing Agency: DGM Mizoram]**

- a) DGM, Mizoram proposed replacement of Pulveriser with Vibratory Cup Mill under Project 1. The agency briefed that Vibratory Cup Mill produces more homogeneous fine powder suitable for pressed pellets. Also, the control over particle size is excellent. For WD-XRF, uniform particle size and homogeneity are crucial. Interchangeable bowls minimize contamination, easier to clean bowl sets, designed for contamination-free preparation. Also, the operation is quieter and enclosed with lower maintenance. Approved cost for Pulveriser was ₹17.11 Lakh and the proposed Vibratory Cup Mill will be procured in the same rate.
- b) DGM, Mizoram further proposed price enhancement of Research Polarising Microscope under Project 1 from initially approved ₹12 Lakh to ₹ 13,92,400.00 lakh. Additional items such as Vertical illuminator, LED light & fixed polariser for reflected light path are added in new quotation received by the agency. OEM has certified that additional specification will work with both reflected and transmitted light.
- c) The TCC-II agreed for recommending the additional cost of ₹1,92,400/- for procurement of Research Polarising Microscope with Vertical illuminator, LED light & fixed polariser for reflected light path.

#### ***Recommendation TCC-II***

- ***The committee recommends the proposal for approval of PSC for replacement of Pulveriser with Vibratory Cup Mill to be procured in the same rate.***
- ***The committee recommends the proposal for approval of PSC for “additional cost of ₹ 1,92,400/- for procurement of Research Polarising Microscope with Vertical illuminator, LED light & fixed polariser for reflected light path”.***

## **Agenda 15.3 Review of Ongoing projects/Completed Projects & Timeline Extension**

### **Agenda 15.3.1 Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Iron, Manganese and Associated Minerals in Jauli-Sailwara Area, Jabalpur District, Madhya Pradesh.**

**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) MECL did not present the progress of work and informed that analytical results are still awaited.

### **Agenda 15.3.2 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for diamond in adjacent area of Angira-B & Angira-A Block, Chhatarpur District, Madhya Pradesh**

**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) The MECL informed that the Angira-B & Angira-A Block was recommended in 58th TCC, held on 30th & 31st October 2023 and approved in 32nd EC meeting held on 06th December 2023. The sanction order was issued on 12th December 2023 with timeline of 18 months, and approved cost was INR 5,61,53,521/-.

- b) During the 1st TCC-II meeting, the committee recommended cross-checking of lamproite samples and approved infill Ground Magnetic and TDEM surveys, followed by geochemical soil sampling and drill hole planning. In the 2nd TCC-II meeting, the committee approved the estimated total project cost of ₹616.20 lakh (including GST).
- c) MECL informed that detailed geological mapping of 2.3 sq. km. area has been done on 1:2000 scale. Magnetic survey has been done for 2600 stations (out of 2650 stations). TDEM has also been done for 140 stations.
- d) The proposal area falls within the G4 region previously explored by GSI for REE and associated minerals during FS: 2012–13. The area is predominantly underlain by metasedimentary rocks of the Shillong Group, with younger granitic bodies intrusions. Merely based on the NGCM survey indicates some anomalous Ni and Cr values; however, these do not appear sufficiently promising to justify duplication of reconnaissance surveys. Moreover, mafic and ultramafic rocks—the most favourable host rocks for Ni and Cr—are not significantly developed in the proposed area.
- e) The TCC-II opined that, based on the interpretation of the geophysical survey, two boreholes (BH-1 and BH-9, as per the boreholes plan prepared by MECL) may initially be taken up for drilling in the area with subsequent boreholes to be decided after review.

#### **Recommendation TCC-II**

***The Committee advised the agency to initially undertake drilling of two boreholes (BH-1 and BH-9, as per the borehole plan prepared by MECL) in the area, with the subsequent boreholes to be decided after review of the initial results.***

#### **Agenda 15.3.3 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for copper and associated mineralization in Govindpur Block, Chandrapur District, Maharashtra.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Private Limited]**

The agency withdrew the proposal from review in the TCC-II as the peer review comments were to be addressed and requested that it be considered in the upcoming TCC-I meeting. The committee agreed to the agency's request and decided to defer the proposal for the upcoming TCC-I meeting.

#### **Agenda 15.3.4 Preliminary Exploration (G3) for aluminous laterite and associated critical minerals in Govindagude & Sudigudde Block, Udupi District, Karnataka.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Critical Mineral Trackers (CMT)]**

- a) The project was recommended in the 71<sup>st</sup> TCC meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and subsequently approved in the 39<sup>th</sup> EC meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025. The Sanction Order was issued on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025, with a project timeline of 6 months (up to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025) within an overall schedule period of twelve months. The approved cost of the project was ₹44,24,191/-.
- b) CMT informed the committee that out of the total project area of 1.2 sq. km, 89 hectares fall under forest land, while 31 hectares lie within KCDC area and are under the exempted category.
- c) The agency apprised the committee that forest clearance has not yet been granted, due to which a timeline extension was sought.



- d) The committee noted that a timeline extension up to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 had already been approved during the 79th TCC-I meeting.
- e) During the 81<sup>st</sup> TCC-I meeting, the agency once again requested a further timeline extension. However, the committee instructed the agency to follow up with the Department of Environment and Forests (DoEF) as per the revised guidelines and obtain the necessary approval for the work. The committee did not approve the timeline extension at this stage.
- f) The agency assured the committee that forest clearance would be obtained within 15 days and requested for timeline extension of 3 months, up to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026, for completion of the project.

#### **Recommendation TCC-II.**

***The committee recommended the proposal for approval of PSC for “timeline extension of 3 months up to 31.01.2026 for completion of the project”.***

### **Agenda 15.4 Project Evaluation for In-Principle-Approval**

#### **Agenda 15.4.1 Reconnaissance Survey (G4) for Nickle-Chromium-Cobalt and associated Lithophile Trace Elements (Sr-Zr-Ba) in Kongipara Area, Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya.**

**[Implementing Agency: M/s Gemcokati Private Limited,]**

- a) The proposed area for reconnaissance survey (G4), covering 50 sq. km, falls within Survey of India Toposheet No. 78O/13, in parts of Ri-Bhoi District, Meghalaya.
- b) Gemcokati Private Limited inform that the NGCM report for Toposheet No. 78 O/13 is the first NGCM project in Meghalaya, NER. In the demarcated block area, the chemical analysis of stream sediment samples shows a range of 22 ppm to 257 ppm for Nickel against, 103 ppm to 1178 ppm for Chromium, and 95 ppm to 124 ppm for Cobalt.
- c) In the NGCM reports, the values for associated trace elements (Lithophile) in stream sediment samples for Strontium 381 ppm to 621 ppm, for Zirconium 1019 ppm to 3907 ppm and for Barium 2079 ppm to 2146 ppm.
- d) Additionally, the GSI Report of (F.S. 2012-13) on REE shows that the chemical analysis of PCS samples for Nickel ranges from 3 ppm to 476 ppm, for Chromium from 42 ppm to 1150 ppm, and for Cobalt from 2 ppm to 68 ppm. According to the GSI report (F.S. 2012-13 and 2013-14), along with high REE values, occurrences of other elements such as Nickel, Chromium, Cobalt, and other associated lithophile trace elements are also matched. Though the item was focused on REE only.
- e) GSI Report of (F.S. 2012-13) on REE shows the following ranges for these elements: 162 ppm to 1392 ppm for Strontium, 165 ppm to 607 ppm for Zirconium and 578 ppm to 2696 ppm for Barium.
- f) The table containing the comments is given below.

S.N.	Agency	Comment
1	GSI	The proposed NMET block shows partial overlapping with the earlier explored blocks of FS 2005-06 (Basemetal), 2012-13 (REE), 2013-14 (REE) and 2024-25 (REE).
2	DMR, Meghalaya	At present, no reconnaissance or detailed exploration projects targeting REE, RM and associated minerals are being carried out by this Directorate in the proposed area in Ri Bhoi District

3	MECL	Informed that the proposed Ri Bhoi area does not overlap with current and previous exploration block of MECL.
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- g) The committee noted that, according to the GSI report, Sadiq and Umrao (FS: 2013–14) conducted G-4 stage exploration for Rare Earth Elements (REE) in parts of the Nongpoh Pluton area. The study, however, did not reveal any significant values of Nickel, Chromium, Cobalt, or associated lithophile trace elements such as Strontium (Sr), Zirconium (Zr), and Barium (Ba) in the Kongipara area. Based on these findings, the committee concluded that there is no justification for further exploration in this area.

***Recommendation TCC***

***The committee did not approve the proposal***






**List of participants attended 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical-cum-cost Committee (TCC-II) of NMEDT held on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2025 through video conferencing mode**

S.no	Name	Designation	Email ID	Contact No	Organization
1	Shri. Pradeep Singh	Dy. Director General, GSI, Kolkata	ddg.it@gsi.gov.in	9810233957	Chairman, TCC - II
2	Shri. Sanjay Singh	Director, GSI, Western Region, Jaipur	sanjay.singh3@gsi.gov.i n	9928860884	Member Secretary TCC-II
3	Shri. B S Jodha	Dy. Director General (Retired), GSI	jodha1961@gmail.com	9414023478	Member TCC-II
4	Shri. Sunil Kumar Vashisth	GM (Retired), Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur	sunilhzi@gmail.com	9829059236	Member TCC-II
5	Shri. Dilip Kanungo	Chief Ore Dressing officer, IBM	codo@ibm.gov.in	8237047897 9405147897	Member TCC-II
6	Shri. D.S.Jeere	Director, GSI, RSAS Bengaluru.	dattatreya.jeere@gsi.gov.in	-	Member TCC-II
7	Shri M.K.Patel	Dy. Director General (Retired), GSI	patelmk27@gmail.com	9040011231	Member TCC-II
8	Dr. M. K. Mukherjee	Associate Professor IIT (ISM) Dhanbad	mrinal@iitism.ac.in	9431711148	Member TCC-II
9	Dr. T.S.Sunil Kumar	Addl. Director (Retired), AMD	ts.sunilkumar@gmail.co m	9502560153	Member TCC-II
10	Ms. Geetika Sharma	Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMEDT, Ministry of Mines	geetika.sharma@gov.in	-	Member TCC-II
11	Shri. Alok Kumar	Deputy Secretary (IFD), Ministry of Mines	alok.kumar@nic.in	-	Member TCC-II
12	Shri. Ravi Kumar Gupta	ED (Finance), HCL,	ravi_g@hindustancopper .com	9433274328	Member TCC-II
13	Shri. P.K. Maharana	GM (Finance), NALCO,	pmaharana@rediffmail.c om	8500669500	Member TCC-II
14	Shri. Anoop Kumar	CAO, GSI, CHQ Kolkata, GSI	Anoop.kumar2@gsi.gov.in	-	Member TCC-II
15	Mr. Subrata Sarkar	VP (Project & Planning)	subrata.sarkar@gemcokati. com	7044208900	Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Chandrapur
16	Dr. Vinay Sahay	Sr. Manager (Geology)	vinay.sahay@geologist.com	9730514284	Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Chandrapur

17	Mr. Chinmay Rout	Geologist	chinmay2007rta@gmail.com	8260086563	Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Chandrapur
18	Mr. Kaustav Bhattacharjee	Geologist	kaustavbhattacharjee18@gmail.com	8637848584	Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Chandrapur
19	Mr. Ramraj Patel	Jr. Geologist	patelramraj1998@gmail.com	8856991189	Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Chandrapur
20	Mr. Subhajt Chakraborty	Geologist	csubhajt101@gmail.com	7278706372	Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Chandrapur
21	Mr. Shubham Nimbalkar	Geologist	shubhamnimbalkar238@gmail.com	9579211021	Bhushilp Mines & Minerals Pvt.Ltd.
22	Vikram K Y	Founder & Partner	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	9849574333	Critical Mineral Trackers
23	S.Rama Murthy	Director - Geology & Mineral Exploration	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	9490685131	Critical Mineral Trackers
24	Ch.Suseela	Technical Area Expert	criticalmineraltrackers@gmail.com	9440373471	Critical Mineral Trackers
25	Shri Shrikant Sharma	HoD (Exploration)	shrikantsharma@mecl.co.in	9131229758	MECL
26	Shri E Kuppusamy	DGM (Exploration)	kuppusamyekambaram@gmail.com	7776958086	MECL
27	Shri S.K. Satapathy	Sr. Manager(Geology)	sksatapathy4u@gmail.com	9993617090	MECL
28	Shri Vikash Kumar	Sr. Manager(Geology)	vikgeo@gmail.com	9755135325	MECL
29	Shri Ashish Singh	Sr. Manager(Geology)	ashishsingh@mecl.gov.in	9929960301	MECL
30	Balkrishan Vishwakarma	Manager- Geology	balkrishan.v@maheshwaree.com	9651143638	MMPL Pvt Ltd
31	Bhola Prasad yadav	Dy Manager (Geology)	b.prasad@maheshwaree.in	8709723943	MMPL Pvt Ltd
32	Moulipriya Bhakta	Dy Manager (Geology)	moulipriya.bhakta@maheshwaree.com	7890631970	MMPL Pvt Ltd
33	Representative			Ocean Drilling	
34	Representative			DGM Mizoram	
35	Representative			Kartikay Exploration	
36	Shri Sudeep Manish Toppo	Director	sudeep.toppo@gsi.gov.in	9065146048	GSI
37	Smt. Anju C. S	Superintending Geologist	nmet.mines@gov.in	8588836933	NMET
38	Ms. Bishakha	Sr. Geologist	nmet.mines@gov.in	8126541605	NMET

39	Smt. Palak Kapoor	Sr. Geologist	nmet.mines@gov.in	8851742488	NMET
40	Shri Rajesh Sharma	Sr. Geologist	nmet.mines@gov.in	8377851047	NMET
41	Shri Monu Tomar	Sr. Geophysicist	nmet.mines@gov.in	9467728411	NMET
42	Shri Akshay Verma	Geologist	nmet.mines@gov.in	9911258955	NMET
43	Shri Manish Kumar	Geophysicist	nmet.mines@gov.in	9652258670	NMET


