

**Government of India  
Ministry of Mines  
National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust**

---

F.No.6/2/2015-NMET/ 397

New Delhi, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2025

**Subject: Circulation of minutes of 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of Executive Committee (EC) of National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) held on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2025**

Please find enclosed herewith the minutes of 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of Executive Committee of NMEDT held on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 for your kind perusal.

Encl: As above

  
[Geetika Sharma]  
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMEDT

To,

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
3. The Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Mines
4. The Director General, Geological Survey of India
5. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines
6. Director General, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust
7. The Director, Atomic Mineral Exploration and Research Directorate
8. The Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Mines and Petroleum, Government of Rajasthan
9. The Additional Chief Secretary, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Dept., Govt. of Tamil Nadu
10. The Principal Secretary, Mineral Resources Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh,
11. The Principal Secretary, Industries, Energy and Labour Dept., Govt. of Maharashtra

12. Dr. P Krishnamurthy, Flat No. 103, A Block, IGV Apts., Ideal Homes Township, RR Nagar, Bengaluru
13. Prof. Tapas Kr. Biswal, B- 4, 101, IIT Bhubaneswar Campus, Argul, Jatni, Khordha, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, 752050
14. Shri Bhagwati Prasad Raturi, Ex -GM (Exploration), MECL, Lane N0-7, New Garhwal Colony Near Malsi Puliya, Balawala, Dehradun-248019, Uttarakhand
15. Shri Pankaj Satija, NTH Complex, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, A-2 Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi
16. Shri. Hanuma Prasad Modali, Deccan Gold Mines Limited, No 77, 16th Cross, Sector IV, HSR Layout, Bangalore 560102

**Copy to:**

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology and Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Minerals, Government of Assam.
4. The Principal Secretary-cum-Mines Commissioner, Government of Bihar.
5. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
6. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry and Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries and Commerce), Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines and Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries and Commerce), Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Maharashtra.

15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining and Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel and Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology, Government of Punjab.
19. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
20. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
21. The Principal Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines and Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce and Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.
27. The Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura.
28. The Secretary, Commerce and Industries, Government of Mizoram.
29. The Secretary, Textiles, Commerce and Industry, Government of Manipur.
30. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana.

**Copy for kind information to:**

1. PS to Hon'ble Union Minister of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. Addl. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
3. PSO to Secretary, Mines/Chairman, EC, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
4. PPS to Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
5. PPS to Joint Secretary (Metal), Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
6. PPS to Joint Secretary (Policy), Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
7. PPS to Director General, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust, Ministry of Mines, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi

**Minutes of 44<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee (EC) meeting of National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) held on 18.9.2025 at 15:00 hours under Chairmanship of Shri Piyush Goyal, Chairman, EC/Secretary, Mines**

The 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Executive Committee of NMEDT was convened under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Mines, on 18.9.2025, to discuss the proposal of formation of a Committee/Sub-committee of the Executive Committee, NMEDT, to deliberate, scrutinize, and approve the project proposals recommended by the Technical cum Cost Committees (TCCs) up to the financial limit of Rs. 20 crore per project under Rules 10 and 11 of the NMEDT Rules, 2015. The list of participants is annexed as Annexure-1.

The Director General NMEDT, informed to the Executive Committee, that pursuant to the amendments made to the MMDR Act in 2025, the scope of the Trust has widened. Now, NMEDT will also fund exploration in offshore areas within India and outside India for regional and detailed exploration and development of mines and minerals in the prescribed manner. Consequently, the National Mineral Exploration Trust has been renamed as the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust. Considering the enhanced scope of work, it is anticipated that there would be a substantial increase in the number of exploration proposals in NMEDT. The focus is on expediting the exploration work by enhancing the ecosystem for greater participation of the private sector, besides the public sector and promoting ease of doing business by granting faster clearances to the projects. The matter was discussed in the Ministry of Mines, and it was decided that there would be a weekly meeting of both the TCCs. Further, to fast-track the approval for the proposals recommended by the TCCs, a committee/sub-committee be constituted, and accordingly, the 44<sup>th</sup> EC meeting was called on 18.09.2025.

The EC was informed by DG NMEDT, that Rule 11 sub rule (1) of The NMEDT rules, 2015 provides that

“The Executive Committee may constitute committees or sub-committees to undertake such tasks that may be assigned or delegated by the Executive Committee to such committees and sub-committees.”

Further, Rule 10 sub-rule (4) of The NMEDT rules, 2015 provides that

“The Executive Committee shall formulate and finalise the scheme for delegation of financial powers.”

The proposal was deliberated at length by the Executive Committee.

- a. It was also informed that the NMEDT is a statutory, autonomous body under the Ministry of Mines. The members were requested to share their views with regard to the Chairperson of this proposed committee or sub-committee and its composition.

**Views of the members of EC:** It would be better if DG, NMEDT is Chairperson of this committee keeping in mind the autonomous character of the NMEDT.

- b. Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor (AS&FA), Ministry of Mines observed that (i) it would not be advisable to have a representative of IFD, Mines as a member of the committee of an autonomous body (ii) the composition of the committee should be similar to that of the Executive Committee with appropriate level (iii) the decision of the EC should be got approved from Hon'ble Union Minister of Mines.

**Views of the members of EC:** (i) NMEDT is a statutory body under the Ministry of Mines. The Executive Committee of NMEDT also includes AS/JS&FA as a member, and therefore, a representative from IFD, Mines, should be included in the proposed committee to provide a financial perspective on the projects. Since there is no officer of Director/DS rank (Finance) presently posted in NMEDT, therefore it was decided that the Cost Accounts Officer, NMEDT should be also included in the proposed committee; (ii) as far as the composition of the committee about other members is concerned, the observation made by AS&FA was agreed to; (iii) rule 11 sub-rule (1) of the NMEDT Rules, 2015 authorizes the Executive Committee to constitute committees or sub-committees. However, the Secretary, Mines, directed that approval of the EC decision be obtained from the Hon'ble Union Minister of Mines.

- c. DG, GSI suggested that the proposed committee should have Director, Mission-II of GSI as a member instead of DDG, PSS.

**Views of the members of EC:** The suggestion made by DG, GSI was agreed to.

- d. The Principal Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh suggested that the proposed committee may be named as Project Sanctioning Committee.

**Views of the members of EC:** The suggestion made by the Principal Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh was agreed to.

In view of the deliberations and observations made by the members of the Executive Committee, the following committee named as Project Sanctioning Committee, consisting of members mentioned below, is approved :

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Members of Project Sanctioning Committee of Executive Committee of NMEDT</b>	<b>Position</b>
1	Director General, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust	Chairperson, ex officio
2	An officer not below the rank of Director, Department of Atomic Energy	Member, ex officio
3	An officer not below the rank of Director, Ministry of Coal	Member, ex officio
4	An officer not below the rank of Director, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Member, ex officio
5	DS/Director, IFD, Ministry of Mines or Coal	Member, ex officio
6	Director, Mission-II, Geological Survey of India	Member, ex officio
7	Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines or his nominee not below the rank of Regional Controller of Mines	Member, ex officio
8	One representative from Department of Geology and Mining of the State Government from four State Government as decided by Central Government on rotation basis for a term not exceeding two years at a time, with the eligibility for renomination	Member, ex officio
9	Director, National Critical Mineral Mission, Ministry of Mines	Member, ex officio
10	Director – Projects, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust	Member Secretary, ex-officio
11	Cost Accounts Officer, National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust	Member, ex officio
12	Five technical experts as nominated by the Chairperson, Executive Committee for the Executive Committee	

The above-mentioned committee shall have powers to sanction projects with a financial limit of Rs. 20 crore for each project.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Annexure-1****List of participants**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Mode of Joining</b>
1	Secretary, Mines	Shri Piyush Goyal	Physical
2	Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Mines	Shri Ashish Chatterjee	Physical
3	Joint Secretary (Metal) Ministry of Mines (Special Invitee)	Shri Vivek Bajpai	Physical
4	Joint Secretary (Policy) Ministry of Mines (Special Invitee)	Shri Dinesh Mahur	Physical
5	Deputy Secretary Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	Shri V. C. Choudhary	Online
6	Director, AMD	Dr. Dheeraj Pande	Physical
7	Director General, GSI	Shri Asit Saha	Online
8	Controller General, IBM	Shri Pankaj Kulshrestha	Physical
9	Director General, NMET	Shri Pankaj Garg	Physical
10	Director (Tech.) Ministry of Coal	Shri B K Thakur	Physical
11	Dy. Secretary & HoD, NMET	Smt. Geetika Sharma	Physical
12	Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	Shri Umakant Umrao Principal Secretary Mineral Resources Department Madhya Pradesh	Online
13	Govt. of Maharashtra	Dr. Gajanan D. Kamde Director, DGM, Maharashtra	Online
14	Govt. of Rajasthan	Shri. Alok Jain Addl. Director (Geology) DGM Rajasthan	Online
15	Govt. of Tamil Nadu	Ms. Deepa Jt. Director, CGM Tamil Nadu	Online
16	Technical Expert	Dr. P Krishnamurthy	Online
17	Technical Expert	Prof. Tapas Kumar Biswal	Online
18	Technical Expert	Shri Bhagwati Prasad Raturi	Online
19	Technical Expert	Shri Pankaj Satija	Online
20	Technical Expert	Shri Hanuma Prasad Modali	Online

### List of Attendees

Sl. No.	Position	Name	Mode of Joining	Signature
1	Secretary, Mines	Shri Piyush Goyal	Physical	
2	Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor Ministry of Mines	Shri Ashish Chatterjee	Physical	<i>LA</i> <i>18/09/22</i>
3	Joint Secretary (Metal), Ministry of Mines <i>(Special Invitee)</i>	Shri Vivek Bajpai	Physical	<i>Vivek Bajpai</i>
4	Joint Secretary (Policy), Ministry of Mines <i>(Special Invitee)</i>	Shri Dinesh Mahur	Physical	<i>D. Mahur</i>
5	Director, AMD	Dr. Dheeraj Pande	Physical	<i>Dr. Dheeraj Pande</i> <i>18/9/22</i>
6	Controller General, IBM	Shri Pankaj Kulshrestha	Physical	<i>Pankaj Kulshrestha</i>
7	Director General, NMET	Shri Pankaj Garg	Physical	<i>Pankaj Garg</i>
8	Director (Tech.) Ministry of Coal	Shri B K Thakur	Physical	<i>B K Thakur</i>
9	<del>Dy. Joint</del> Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	<del>Shri Vinod Seshan</del> <i>Shri V. C. Chaudhary, D.S.</i>	Online	
10	Director General, GSI	Shri Asit Saha	Online	
11	Dy. Secretary & HoD, NMET	Smt. Geetika Sharma	Physical	
12	Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	<del>Shri Frank Nobel A</del> <i>Shri Umakant Umrao</i> <del>Director, DGM, M.P.</del> <i>Principal Secretary, M.R.D., Madhya Pradesh</i>	Online	
13	Govt. of Maharashtra	Dr. Gajanan D. Kamde Director, DGM, Maharashtra	Online	
14	Govt. of Rajasthan	Alok Jain Addl. Director (Geology) DGM Rajasthan	Online	
15	Govt. of Tamil Nadu	Ms. Deepa Jt. Director CGM Tamil Nadu	Online	
16	Technical Expert	Dr. P Krishnamurthy	Online	
17	Technical Expert	Prof. T K Biswal	Online	
18	Technical Expert	Shri B P Raturi	Online	
19	Technical Expert	Shri Pankaj Satija	Online	
20	Technical Expert	Shri Hanuma Prasad Modali	Online	