

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

To examine/monitor the work executed by the Notified Private Exploration Agencies [NPEAs] in the state and to verify the bills claimed by NPEAs for such purpose under scheme for engagement of NPEAs in mineral exploration directly through NMET by the Deputy Director General [Dy. DG] of State Units, Geological Survey of India as Nodal Officer of respective States.

1. Background

- 1.1 National Mineral Exploration Trust [NMET] has developed a scheme to encourage participation of private sector in exploration of critical and strategic minerals as specified in Part-D of the First Schedule and in the Seventh Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 through NMET funds. The scheme aims at accelerating exploration activities in the country by engaging the Notified Private Exploration Agencies [NPEAs] in mineral exploration for this category of minerals and also easing out the process of reimbursement/funding of the operations carried out by NPEAs through NMET. The project proposals submitted by NPEAs for this category of minerals is to be directly handled by NMET for approval and sanction.
- 1.2 The concerned OM F. No. 6/3/2015-NMET dated 12th December, 2023 of Ministry of Mines regarding scheme for engagement of NPEAs in mineral exploration of Critical and Strategic Minerals has specific directive for the Deputy Director Generals of State Units of Geological Survey of India (GSI) in respect of mode of engagement of NPEAs and funding by NMET for exploration of these minerals. The above-mentioned OM is enclosed herewith as **annexure-A**.
- 1.3 Further NMET has issued an OM F.No.6/3/2015-NMET/176 dated 27th June, 2024 in supersession to the OM F.No.6/3/2015-NMET/380 dated 12th December, 2023 regarding the revised scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies [NPEA] in Mineral Exploration directly through NMET. The present scheme is applicable for exploration of all major minerals other than minerals mentioned in Part-B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act 1957. **[annexure-B]**
- 1.4 As per the aforesaid OM the Deputy Director General will be the Nodal Officer from the respective State Unit Office of GSI who will examine/monitor the work

executed by the NPEAs in the State and verify the bills claimed by NPEAs for such purpose. The NPEAs will submit bill to NMET after verification/certification by the Nodal Officer. The OM further specifies that the raw data generated by NPEAs during the mineral prospecting operation shall be submitted inter alias to GSI. The drill core logs generated by NPEAs have to be submitted to the nearest Regional Core Library of GSI as per the SOP of GSI for this purpose in respect of the block.

- 1.5** In pursuance of this OM from the Ministry of Mines, the Director General [DG], GSI constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Joyesh Bagchi, Dy. Director General, State Unit: Uttar Pradesh, NR along with Dr. Lalan Prasad Singh, Dy. Director General, SU: Telangana, SR and Shri Anindya Bhattacharya, Dy. Director General, SU: Rajasthan, WR as members to prepare the SOP to examine/monitor the work executed by the NPEAs in the states and to verify the bills claimed by NPEAs for such purpose under scheme for engagement of NPEAs in mineral exploration directly through NMET. The committee has also sought technical inputs and advise from several geoscientists having expertise in their subject domain. Besides, Shri Hemant Kumar, Director [Technical Co-ordination], SU: Uttar Pradesh, GSI, NR and Shri Subhash Kumar, Superintending Geologist, SU: Uttar Pradesh, GSI, NR have provided valuable techno- administrative inputs for formulation and drafting of this SOP.

2. Introduction

2.1 The committee constituted by the DG, GSI had multiple meetings through Video Conferencing to deliberate on the issues involved and has prepared SOP ensuring uniformity in examining/monitoring of such mineral exploration projects of NPEAs by the Dy. Director Generals of different State Units of GSI.

2.2 The work of examining/monitoring of the work executed by the NPEAs, verifying/ certifying bills claimed by NPEAs for such purpose, ensuring submission of raw data generated by the NPEAs during mineral exploration, and submission of drill cores logs to the Core Library of the Region of the respective State Unit of GSI mandatorily requires systematic monitoring and inspection of the exploration activities of the NPEAs from the Office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit. These warrants specific information

flow/activities of NMET, NPEAs and the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit.

- 2.3** The scope of examining/monitoring by the office of the Dy. Director General of a State Unit in respect of the work executed by the NPEAs will be strictly limited to the physical targets of different work components as specified in the approved exploration program and sanction order by NMET. The technical supervision, review and evaluation of the project implementation will be under the purview of the TCC, NMET.
- 2.4** The cost for each component of work will be as per the sanction order of NMET. In case of specific component of work which is not mentioned in the sanction order, NPEAs will seek necessary clarifications on the applicable cost and obtain requisite approval from NMET, prior to submission of the claims/bills.
- 2.5** Further, during the execution of the approved project proposal the time overrun, cost overrun and the evaluation/approval of revised cost estimates including the penalties to be imposed thereon will be the domain of NMET.

Role and responsibilities of the NMET, Office of the Dy. Director Generals of State Units and NPEAs.

3. National Mineral Exploration Trust [NMET]

- 3.1** The details of approved mineral exploration programs to be implemented by the NPEAs including project proposal with inter alias the background information, mineral exploration methodology to be adopted, detailed quantum of work, estimated cost, time schedule, action plan along with the generalised activity normalisation time table [GANTT] etc. will have to be provided by the NMET.
- 3.2** The minutes of the Technical-cum Cost Committee [TCC], Executive Committee [EC], NMET meeting and Sanction Order concerning the respective project will also be provided by the NMET.
- 3.3** The NMET will also provide the name, designation, email and contact number of the nodal person from the NPEAs responsible for implementation of the program.

- 3.4 The technical reviews and quality check of the project implementation is to be done through TCC as per the extant NMET guidelines.
- 3.5 The monthly progress of the work executed, received from the NPEAs have to be provided to the Dy.DG, GSI of respective state units.
- 3.6 Any modification in the approved project proposal during technical reviews, such as work component, time schedule, estimated cost, approval of final geological report etc. need to be informed by NMET.
- 3.7 All the above information may be provided by NMET to the office of the Dy. Director General of the concerned State Unit with copy to office of DG, GSI will be informed.

4. The office of the Dy. Director General of the State Units, Geological Survey of India

- 4.1 The office of Dy. Director General or an authorised officer from his office will seek from the nodal person of the NPEAs the names, email addresses, contact number of the officials responsible for execution of each work component as per the approved mineral exploration proposal.
- 4.2 All the correspondences/communications, either made with the NPEAs or NMET must be endorsed to the office of DG, GSI, Kolkata for records.
- 4.3 The name, designation, email, contact number of the nodal person from the office of Dy. Director General will be provided to the NPEAs with a copy endorsed to the office of the DG, GSI.
- 4.4 The monitoring of the physical work components carried out by the NPEAs will be done under one JAG level (Geology) officer conversant with mineral exploration activities. The JAG level officer will be designated as the nodal person for interacting with the NPEAs. The STS/JTS (Geology) officer will be on Part Time or Full Time basis depending on the number of exploration programs being implemented by NPEAs in the State. Accordingly, an additional service item will be incorporated in the Field Season Program [FSP] of the State Unit.
- 4.5 The office of the Director, Technical Coordination [TC], in the State Unit will be the custodian of all records related to the implementation of projects by NPEAs

and accordingly, the designated nodal person for a project will ensure that all data submitted by the NPEAs is also forwarded to the office of the Director [TC] of the State Unit.

- 4.6 The execution of the field activities of the NPEAs will be examined and monitored through field visits by the officers from the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit or authorised representative(s) and also required periodic submissions by the NPEAs. ***Dy. Director Generals of the State Units will depute officers to carry out the physical verification of the work being carried out by the NPEAs. Further,*** office of the Dy. Director General will provide the name and designation of such officer(s) to the NPEAs to facilitate the field visit and monitoring of field work activities.
- 4.7 The officer(s) deputed for field visit to examine/monitor the field activities of NPEAs will submit field note on his/her observations to the nodal person in the office of the Dy. Director General of State Unit.
- 4.8 The field visits will be limited to examining and monitoring the physical work activities carried out by NPEAs in the field with reference to the NMET approved mineral exploration proposal and related sanction order. The field visits will not include technical supervision of the field work activities.
- 4.9 The office of the Dy. Director General will depute officers earmarked for the monitoring work under a service item or any other geoscientists from the State Unit.
- 4.10 In order to examine and monitor the geophysical survey activities carried out by NPEAs in the field, the State Unit will be provided with the services of geophysicist(s) on a part time basis by the Head of Department [HoD] of the concerned Regional Headquarter of GSI during the process of examining/monitoring the geophysical survey work of the NPEAs.
- 4.11 The geophysical field work by the designated officer(s) may include repeat data acquisition with the instruments of NPEAs for random check on the veracity of the geophysical data as and when required. The output maps generated may be checked.
- 4.12 The drilling activities will be monitored through monthly progress report as per **annexure-C**, and field visits. The verification of the bills will be subject to the core recovery being >80% in non-mineralized zone and recovery in the

mineralized zone being as per **annexure-D** given in Exploratory Drilling Guidelines for NMET funded Projects, 2018. For mineral commodities which are not listed in **annexure-D**, the drill core recovery need to be >90%. The NPEAs will have to submit the certification for core recovery percentage and also drilling meterage for non-core drilling. In case of lower recovery %age, approval from NMET may be obtained by the NPEA prior to submission of bills to the Dy. Director General, State Units.

4.13 The scope of work of the officer during field visit from the office of the Dy. Director General or authorised officer(s) will inter alias include the following:

(a) The physical verification:

- Geological map with sample location (hard copy) and related documents
- Samples collected for chemical analysis
- Skeletonized drill core/borehole logs/daily progress register
- Field photographs with coordinates

(the physical verification will not include content of the report)

(b) The modification/deviation from submitted work plan, if any and approval thereof by NMET.

4.14 The Dy. Director General of the State Units will ensure all the administrative, financial and logistic support to the associated officer(s) of GSI for all the field activities related to the examination/monitoring of the projects.

4.15 On submission of original hard copy of the claims by the NPEAs along with supporting documents, the verification process will be based on the quantum of work executed by the NPEAs as per the sanction order. The bill verification will be completed within 10 working days, if the claims are in order. In case of deficiency in the claims, clarification will be sought and/or returned to the NPEAs under intimation to NMET and DG, GSI office.

4.16 The Director-in Charge of the Regional Core Library of the concerned Region will receive the drill core and lithologs submitted by NPEAs. The Office of the Regional Mission Head-II of the Region will submit a certificate after the physical verification of the drill cores as per the SOP of GSI to the Dy. Director General of the concerned State Unit and NPEAs within 7 working days.

5 Notified Private Exploration Agencies [NPEAs]

- 5.1** On the basis of the NMET approved exploration project and sanction order, the NPEAs will submit a detailed work plan, time schedule for implementation and deployment plan of technical personnel. ***Whenever NPEAs initiate a field program in the State, NPEA will mandatorily submit to the Dy. Director General of State Units the date of initiation and duration of field visit, names of place of investigation, names and contact details of the investigators to ensure proper coordination with the respective State Units.*** The monitoring and field visit by the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit will be carried out on the basis of these submissions.
- 5.2** The NPEAs will furnish the details along with contact numbers of the geologists/ geophysicists/drilling personnel deployed in the program.
- 5.3** The complete postal address and coordinate locations of the field/drilling camps and changes, if any, will be provided to the office of Dy. Director General of the respective State Unit of GSI by the authorised personnel of the NPEAs.
- 5.4** During the implementation of the field program, the designated nodal person in the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit will be informed in advance on the date and duration of field visits of the geologists/geophysicists/drilling party/technical personnel of the NPEAs.
- 5.5** During field work the deployed personnel of the NPEAs need to provide the co-ordinates of the location whenever sought by the designated officer(s) of the office of the Dy. Director General of State Unit.
- 5.6** The NPEAs will submit monthly progress report vis-à-vis the approved exploration program, work plan, time schedule of implementation and the GANTT chart. This will have to be submitted in the first week of every month. The monthly reports need to include field data/photographs of samples, pits, trenches with locations as well as of drilling unit locations and corresponding drill cores. The progress may also be presented in the format for the monthly progress report at **annexure-E**.
- 5.7** During the field visit by the designated geophysicist(s) from the office of the Dy. Director General of State Unit, NPEAs will facilitate, wherever required, the

repeat data acquisition with the instruments of NPEA for random check of the geophysical data as and when required. The raw data acquired during the geophysical survey and the processed data along with the maps thus generated need to be submitted for scrutiny.

- 5.8 Any modification/deviation from the approved work components and timelines extension should be pre-approved by NMET before presenting the bills to the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit.
- 5.9 The NPEAs will keep in readiness of all the working sheet of the geological/geophysical maps including the plots of the locations of samples/pits/trenches, boreholes location etc. during the field visit by the officers from the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit or authorised representative(s) of respective State Unit.
- 5.10 The nodal person from the NPEAs will certify the achievement against the approved physical targets of each work components. The authenticity of all the data acquired during the implementation of the project lies with the NPEAs.
- 5.11 ***Regarding Chemical analysis of the samples, the results must be certified by the NABL accredited Laboratory Head/Laboratory In-charge*** and other laboratory investigations of the samples, against the approved targets must be certified by the respective Laboratory Head/Laboratory In-charge.
- 5.12 The DGPS co-ordinates of boreholes locations along with pillars and monthly progress report is to be provided to the office of the Dy. Director General of the State Unit as per the format at **annexure-C**.
- 5.13 The NPEAs will have to submit the certification for core recovery percentage and also drilling meterage for non-core drilling. In case of lower recovery %age from the prescribed requirement detailed at para 4.13 above, approval from NMET may be obtained by the NPEAs prior to submission of bills to Dy. Director General of State Unit.
- 5.14 NPEAs may submit original hard copy of bills for examination and verification to the office of the Dy. Director General of State Unit. The claims need to have the following annexures duly certified by the authorized signatory of the NPEA:

- i. The claim bills should be accompanied with the work completion certificate ***for the entire work /part of the work being invoiced as the case may be,*** from the authorised representative of NPEAs.
- ii. Summary of geological/geophysical data and maps thus prepared, if any.
- iii. Details of the samples collected for chemical analysis (**annexure-F**)
- iv. Details of the drilling progress/boreholes logs and core recovery.
- v. Results of the NABL accredited Laboratory studies/chemical analysis duly certified by the Laboratory Head/Laboratory In-charge.
- vi. Modification/Deviation from submitted work plan, if any, must have approval from NMET, prior to submission of the bills.

5.15 The onus of financial transaction during the implementation and execution of the approved mineral exploration program lies with NPEAs as per the sanction order of NMET. The office of the Dy. Director General of State Unit will verify the claims for the work executed based on the approved quantum of work and cost sheet issued by NMET along with sanction order.

5.16 The final claims will be verified only after all drill cores are submitted in the Regional Drill Core Library as per the SOP of GSI and all raw data (geological and geophysical) along with clearance from NMET.

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust

F. No. 6/3/2015-NMET/ 380


New Delhi, 12th December, 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration of Critical and Strategic Minerals - reg.

In partial modification to the OM F.No.6/3/2015-NMET/28 dt. 10th May, 2022 the Competent Authority has approved the modified scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEA) by Central Government in exploration of minerals notified under Part D of the First Schedule and Seventh Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957. The details of scheme are attached for information and necessary action.

Encl: As above


(Vivek Kumar Sharma)
Director, NMET

To

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & 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 & Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.

13. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.
14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines & 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 & Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.

Copy to:

1. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Assam.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Bihar.
4. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Chhattisgarh.
5. The Director of Mines & Geology, Government of Goa.
6. Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Govt. of Gujarat.
7. The Director, Department of Industries, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
9. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand.
10. The Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka.
11. The Director, Directorate of Mining & Geology, Government of Kerala.
12. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
13. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra.
14. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya.
15. The Director, Directorate of Mines, Government of Odisha.

16. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan.
17. The Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu.
18. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana.
19. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
20. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
21. The Director, Directorate of Mines & Minerals, Government of West Bengal.
22. The Director, Natural Resources Division-Tata Steel Limited, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand -831001.
23. The Managing Director, Indian Mine Planners E.M, Kolkata, West Bengal- 700107.
24. The Director, United Exploration India Pvt. Ltd. New Town, West Bengal 700156.
25. The CEO & Director, Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, E 77 MIDC Chandrapur, Maharashtra – 442401.
26. The Managing Director, Geotechnical Mining Solutions, Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu- 636705.
27. The Director, Geoexpore Private Limited, No 12-28/2 SY No.28/2 Kothanur Arya Grande Hamsa Bangalore, Karnataka – 560078.
28. The Chairman, V.M. Salgaocar and Brother Private Limited, FI Gomes Rd, Vasco da Gama, Gao 403802.
29. The CEO & Director (Consulting), Geology & Hydro Services, Geovale Services Pvt. Ltd., 3rd Floor, Anaya Chambers, GN 38/5, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700091.
30. The Managing Director, Maheshwari Mining Pvt. Ltd., FR 07 Shilpangan, Plot No- LB 1, Sector III, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700091
31. The Director, Geo Marine Solution Pvt. Ltd., Sankaigudda, Bejai, Manglore- 575004.
32. The Director, Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions, No: 17, Advaita Ashram Rd, Fairlands, Salem, Tamil Nadu 636004.
33. The Chairman, Ecomen Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh 226024.
34. The Director, Infrastructure Logistics Private Limited, St Inez, Panaji North Goa GA 403001.
35. The Managing Director, Novomine India Private Limited, Meghalaya Pohkse, Shillong – 793006.
36. The Managing Manager, Engeotech Consultant, 1338, Kachnar City Rd, Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur, Raksha, Madhya Pradesh 482002.
37. The Chairman, Kartikay Exploration & Mining Services Pvt. Ltd., Crorepati Lane, Civil Line Nagpur, Maharashtra 440001.

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001
2. PPS to AS, Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001
3. Director (Technical), Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001

Scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration directly through National Mineral Exploration Trust

1. Background

1.1 Central Government has made several policy reforms to boost the mineral production in the country and make the country self-reliant in mineral sector. Recent amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) in 2023 has empowered Central Government to exclusively auction Composite Licence and Mining Lease for critical and strategic minerals listed in the Part D of the first Schedule of the Act. Further, a new provision for grant of exploration license has been made for mineral specified in the Seventh Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 to encourage participation of private sector in exploration of these minerals considering their importance in national economy and need of use of the latest technology in exploration in these minerals.

1.2 In view of the amendments, it will be appropriate that the exploration of these minerals as specified in the Part D of the First Schedule and in the Seventh Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 through National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) funds is handled by Central Government. The projects proposals submitted by Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs) in this category of minerals may directly be handled by NMET for approval and sanction.

2. Objective

2.1 The objective of the Scheme is to boost the exploration activities in the country by engaging NPEA in mineral exploration of critical and strategic minerals as listed in the Part D of the First Schedule and Seventh Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 by the Central Government and to ease out the process of reimbursement/ funding of the operations by NPEA through NMET.

3. Procedure for Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies by Central Government and their Funding

3.1 General Conditions

- (i) The present scheme is applicable for exploration of minerals as mentioned in Part-D of the First Schedule (**Annexure 1**) and Seventh Schedule (**Annexure 2**) of the MMDR Act 1957.

(ii) Exploration operations shall be undertaken in accordance with the provisions regarding such operations in the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules) 2015, the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 (MCDR), the Guidelines for notification of accredited private exploration agencies issued by Ministry of Mines on 12th August, 2021 and any other applicable law for the time being in force.

(iii) NPEA shall undertake exploration in respect of the category of minerals and mineral deposits under which it has been notified.

(iv) Approval for exploration to NPEA or their funding from NMET shall not confer any right on the NPEA for grant of any mineral concession in the area explored. The mineral concession (composite licence, mining lease, etc.) in such explored area shall be granted in accordance with the provision of the MMDR Act and rules made thereunder. A NPEA may participate in auction of mineral concession over the block or a part thereof which has been explored by such NPEA subject to provision of the MMDR Act and rules made thereunder.

(v) In case of exploration projects of minerals as mentioned in Part-D of First Schedule and Seventh Schedule of the MMDR amendment Act 2023, already sanctioned by NMET in the name of State Government to be executed by NPEA also, the NPEA will be eligible to participate in auction of these blocks.

(vi) The details of any related party to the NPEA, participating in the auction for mining lease has to be declared beforehand to the Central Government/ State Government.

3.2 Mode of Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEA) and Funding by NMET for Exploration of Critical and Strategic Minerals

The engagement of NPEA by Central Government and the funding of exploration projects will be done as per the following details:

- i. NPEA may select the area for exploration based on available geoscience data and submit a proposal in respect of the same to NMET. The geoscience data may be accessed from Geological Survey of India's baseline geoscience database available free of cost in the NGDR/Bhukosh portal of Geological Survey of India (GSI), database of other government or private agencies, etc.

- ii. NPEA may submit an application outlining the details of the area, mineral commodities, etc., it proposes for undertaking exploration to NMET in the format specified in Schedule to this Scheme.
- iii. Upon receipt of such application from NPEA, NMET shall send the proposal to Geological Survey of India (GSI) and State Government (DGM/DMG) for their comments for submitting report on the feasibility for undertaking the item for the identified commodity within one month of the receipt of the application from NMET.
- iv. Upon receipt of comments from GSI and State Government (DGM/DMG), NMET shall grant the in-principle approval to NPEA or reject the proposal within 15 days of the receipt of comments from GSI and State Government.
- v. Upon grant of in-principle approval, the NPEA shall prepare and submit the detailed exploration proposal to NMET for evaluation for reconnaissance or prospecting surveys in the format prescribed (**Annexure 3**).
- vi. The proposals submitted to NMET shall be evaluated and approved as per the prescribed procedure of NMET and the concerned NPEA will be responsible for defending the proposal before the Technical and Cost Committee (TCC) of NMET. Further, on recommendation of TCC the projects will be reviewed by Executive Committee (EC) of NMET for approval and sanction.
- vii. On approval of EC, NMET shall issue the sanction order to NPEA and funds will be released by NMET to NPEA as per norms.
- viii. As per Rule 172 (1) Para (ii) of GFR 2017, in case the NPEA wishes to avail mobilization advance (up to 30% of the approved project cost), the NPEA has to submit a Bank Guarantee (BG, including e-bank guarantee) of equal value of advance to NMET. Advance paid will be adjusted in the first bill submitted by the NPEA and a Utilization Certificate of the same has to be submitted along with the bills. Further payment will be made on reimbursement basis against the bills submitted by NPEA. The BG should remain valid for a period of 60 days beyond the date of completion of project and acceptance of geological report by NMET. The Bank Guarantee will be released within 30 days after the settlement of mobilization advance.
- ix. The Deputy Director General, GSI will be the Nodal Officer from the respective State Unit Office of GSI who will examine/monitor the work executed by the NPEA in the State and verify the bills claimed by NPEA for such purpose. The NPEA will submit bill to NMET after verification/certification of the Nodal Officer.
- x. The NPEA undertaking exploration shall submit the yearly geological report(s) and final geological report(s) of the exploration projects to NMET, State Government and Regional Controller or the authorized officer of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) in accordance with rule 9 of MCDR, 2017. In case of projects with a timeline of more than one year, an interim report will be submitted by NPEA.
- xi. The raw data generated by NPEA during the prospecting operation shall be submitted to State Government, Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Regional Controller or the authorized officer of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM). Core logs generated by NPEA have to be submitted to the nearest Regional Core Library of GSI as per the SOP of GSI for this purpose in respect of the block.
- xii. The Central Government shall technically evaluate the geological report and decide about the potential mineral blocks which can further be taken up for auction. The Central Government or State Government, as the case may be, shall put the block for auction as per the procedure prescribed in the Mineral (Auction) Rules 2015 for grant of composite licence or mining lease, as the case may be. The Central Government shall mention the name of NPEA who has prepared the Geological Report in the tender document.

MMDR amendment Act 2023
"PART D of the First Schedule"
Critical and Strategic Minerals

1. Beryl and other beryllium bearing minerals.
2. Cadmium bearing minerals.
3. Cobalt bearing minerals.
4. Gallium bearing minerals.
5. Glauconite.
6. Graphite.
7. Indium bearing minerals.
8. Lithium bearing minerals.
9. Molybdenum bearing minerals.
10. Nickel bearing minerals.
11. Niobium bearing minerals.
12. Phosphate (without uranium).
13. Platinum group of elements bearing minerals.
14. Potash.
15. Minerals of the "rare earths" group not containing Uranium and Thorium.
16. Rhenium bearing minerals.
17. Selenium bearing minerals.
18. Tantalum bearing minerals.
19. Tellurium bearing minerals.
20. Tin bearing minerals.
21. Titanium bearing minerals and ores (ilmenite, rutile and leucoxene).
22. Tungsten bearing minerals.
23. Vanadium bearing minerals.
24. Zirconium bearing minerals and ores including zircon.

MMDR amendment Act 2023

"The Seventh Schedule"

Minerals

1. Apatite
2. Beryl and other beryllium bearing minerals
3. Cadmium bearing minerals
4. Cobalt bearing minerals
5. Copper bearing minerals
6. Diamond
7. Gold
8. Graphite
9. Indium bearing minerals
10. Lead bearing minerals
11. Lithium bearing minerals
12. Molybdenum bearing minerals
13. Niobium bearing minerals
14. Nickel bearing minerals
15. Potash
16. Platinum group of elements bearing minerals
17. Minerals of 'rare earths' group
18. Rhenium bearing minerals
19. Rock Phosphate
20. Selenium
21. Silver
22. Tantalum bearing minerals
23. Tellurium bearing minerals
24. Tin bearing minerals
25. Titanium bearing minerals and ores (ilmenite, rutile and leucoxene)
26. Tungsten bearing minerals
27. Vanadium bearing minerals
28. Zinc bearing minerals
29. Zirconium bearing minerals and ores including zircon

FORMAT FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSAL FOR UNDERTAKING EXPLORATION

To,
The Director & HoD,
National Mineral Exploration Trust,
Ministry of Mines
New Delhi - 110001

Madam/Sir,

I/we am/are submitting the following details for granting 'in-principle' approval by NMET for proposal on reconnaissance or prospecting surveys under the scheme of Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Exploration of Critical and Strategic Minerals issued by Ministry of Mines vide order No. ____ dt ____.

1. Name and Address of the Applicant

(a)	Name:	
(b)	Postal address:	
(c)	Telephone Number (Office):	
(d)	Fax number (Office):	
(e)	Mobile No:	
(f)	Telephone Number (Residence):	
(g)	E-mail address:	

2. Details of Accreditation as Private Exploration Agency and Notification under the proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMRD Act

(a)	Date of accreditation granted by QCI-NABET:	
(b)	Date of expiry of accreditation:	
(c)	Date of Notification under the proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMRD Act:	
(d)	Date of expiry of Notification:	
(e)	Category of the exploration Agency (Category A or B) under Notification:	

3. Location Details of the Area Proposed

(a)	State	
(b)	District (s)	
(c)	Nearby Village (s)	
(d)	Survey of India (SOI) Toposheet (s) No.	
(e)	Area in sq. km.	
(f)	Boundary coordinates of the proposed block (in Decimal degree)	

4. Mineral Potential of the Area

(a)	Name of Mineral(s) identified/ expected in the area/ block	
(b)	Basis on which mineral potential in the area has been identified	
(c)	List of documents and references relied upon in support of item (b) above	

5. Documents to be enclosed with the application

- (i) Location of the proposed block demarcated on Survey of India (SOI) Toposheet No.
- (ii) Documents mentioned in item 4(c) above.

Place:

Date:

Signature of Applicant

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

F. No. 6/3/2015-NMET/ 176

New Delhi, 27th June, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration directly through NMET - reg.

In supersession to the OM F.No.6/3/2015-NMET/380 dt. 12th December, 2023 the Competent Authority has approved the revised scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEA) in mineral exploration directly through NMET. The details of scheme are attached for information and necessary action.

However, the projects sanctioned under the scheme released vide OM F.No. 6/3/2015-NMET/28 dt. 10.05.2022 will be executed as per the sanction orders already issued.

Encl: As above


(Geetika Sharma)
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET

To

1. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Secretary (Geology & Mining), Government of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines & 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 & Geology, Government of Goa.
7. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Principal Secretary (Industry & Mines), Government of Gujarat.
9. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries & Commerce), Government of Jammu & Kashmir.
10. The Secretary (Industries, Mines & Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
11. The Secretary, (Industries & Commerce) Government of Karnataka.
12. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
13. The Secretary (Mines), Government of Madhya Pradesh.

14. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries & Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
15. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining & Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
16. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology & Mining, Government of Nagaland.
17. The Principal Secretary (Steel & Mines), Government of Odisha.
18. The Principal Secretary, Mines & 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 & Mines), Government of Telangana.
22. The Secretary (Mines & Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
24. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce & Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
26. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.

Copy to:

1. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Assam.
3. Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Bihar.
4. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Chhattisgarh.
5. The Director of Mines & Geology, Government of Goa.
6. Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Govt. of Gujarat.
7. The Director, Department of Industries, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh.
8. The Director, Department of Geology and Mining, Government of Jammu and Kashmir.
9. The Director (Mines), Directorate of Mines, Government of Jharkhand.
10. The Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Karnataka.
11. The Director, Directorate of Mining & Geology, Government of Kerala.
12. The Director, Directorate of Geology & Mining, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
13. The Director, Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra.
14. The Director, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Government of Meghalaya.
15. The Director, Directorate of Mines, Government of Odisha.
16. The Director, Mines and Geology Directorate, Government of Rajasthan.
17. The Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Government of Tamil Nadu.
18. The Director of Mines and Geology, Government of Telangana.

19. The Director, Geology and Mining Unit, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
20. The Director, Directorate of Mines & Minerals, Government of West Bengal.
21. Shri Pudi Srinivasa Rao, Natural Resources Division - Tata Steel Limited, Room No. 349, 3rd Floor, Commercial Centre, General office, Bistupur, Jamshedpur East Singhbhum, Jharkhand-831001 (pudi.srinivas@tatasteel.com).
22. Shri Arijit Dey, United Exploration India Pvt. Ltd., Tower 2A, 5th Floor, Action Area II, Ecospace Business Park, Rajarhat, New Town, Kolkata, West Bengal-700156 (admin@unitedexploration.co.in).
23. Dr. Nirode Behari Chanda, Indian Mine Planners & Consultants, GE-61 Rajdanga Main Road, Behind Vivanta Hotel, West Bengal, Kolkata - 700107 (nbc@impcon.in).
24. Shri Jijo George, Gemcokati Exploration Private Limited, Plot No 34, Bapat Nagar, Maharastra Chandrapur - 442401 (jijo@gemcokati.com).
25. Dr. S. Karuppannan, Geotechnical Mining Solutions, 1/213B Natesan Complex Tamil Nadu, Dharmapuri - 636705 (info.gtmsdpi@gmail.com).
26. Mr. Channamallikarjun B. Patil, Geoexpore Private Limited, No 12-28/2, SY No. 28/2, Karnataka, Bangalore - 560077 (cm@geoexpore.com).
27. Mr. Leo Christy A, V.M. Salgaocar & Brother Pvt. Ltd, Salgaocar House, Off F. L. Gomes Road, Vasco Da Gama, South Goa-403802 (leochristy@vmsbgoa.com).
28. Mr. Loknath Rath, Geovale Services Private Limited, GN 38/5, 3rd Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700 091, India West Bengal (loknath.rath@geovale.com).
29. Mr. Sanjeev Ganeriwala, Maheshwari Mining Private Limited, 21, CLM Lane, Raniganj, Dist: Burdwan, West Bengal (anu.thakur@maheshwaree.com).
30. Mr. P. Praveen Kumar, Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd. MP VIII/357B, First Floor, Shreesha Complex, Udyawar village, Manjeshwar, Kasargod, Kerala, India- 671323 (praveen@geomarinesolutions.in)
31. Dr. Ifthikhar Ahmed, Geo Exploration and Mining Solution, 17, Advaita Ashram Rd, Arthanari Nagar, Fairlands, Salem, Tamil Nadu 636004 (ifthiahmed@gmail.com).
32. Mr. Murali Manas B., Ecomen Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., B-1/8, 2nd Floor, opposite Mahalaxmi sweet, Sector H, Sector-A, Aliganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh 226024 (murali.manas@ecomen.in)
33. Ms. Soumi Chakraborty, Novomine India Private Limited, 4th Floor, Building No-65 , Opp-The Children's Hospital, Pohkseh, Shillong, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya- 793006, India (novomineceo@gmail.com).
34. Mr. Abhijit Pednekar, Infrastructure Logistics Private Limited, 205, 2nd Floor, Kamat Metropolis-I, Behind Caculo Mall, St Inez Panaji North Goa 403001 (abhijit.pednekar@fomento.co).
35. Mr. Nitin Kohad, Kartikay Exploration & Mining Services Pvt. Ltd., 199A/18, Chitnavis Marg, Crorepati Gali, Civil Lines, Nagpur, Maharashtra 440001 (nitin.kohad@kartikay.co.in).
36. Mr. Indraneel Dawande, Engeotech Consultant, 1338, Kachnar City Rd, Vijay Nagar, Jabalpur, Raksha, Madhya Pradesh 482002 (engeotech@rediffmail.com).
37. Mr. Om Prakash Somani, Ramgad Mineral and Mining limited, Baldota Enclave, Abheraj Baldota Road, Hosapete 583203 (omprakash.s@rmml.in).

38. Mr. B. Raghushe, PRB Infraprojects Limited, Ratan Heights, S-3, 2nd Floor, Beside Indian Oil Petrol Pump, Medical Square, Nagpur-440024 (prbinfraprojects@gmail.com).
39. Ms. Shivani Gupta, Kundan Concentrates Private Limited, 3, Scindia House, 2nd Floor, Janpath, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001 (shivani.gupta@kundangreenenergy.com).
40. Mr. Deepak Kumar, Gems Project Private Limited, Dugdugiyatoli, Argora, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834002 (md@gemsgroup.in).
41. Mr. Deependra Singh, Mis FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited, Institutional Area Sector B Vivek Vihar Yojna, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Jodhpur -342005. (fagmill@rediffmail.com)

Copy for information to:

1. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001
2. PPS to AS, Ministry of Mines, Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001

Scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration directly through National Mineral Exploration Trust

1. Background

- 1.1** Central Government has made several policy reforms to boost the mineral production in the country and make the country self-reliant in mineral sector. The amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) in 2021 have empowered the Central Government to notify private sector entities to undertake prospecting operations.
- 1.2** After the amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) in 2023, empowered the Central Government to exclusively auction Composite Licence and Mining Lease for critical and strategic minerals listed in the Part D of the first Schedule of the Act, a scheme for engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs) in mineral exploration directly through NMET was notified vide O.M. F.No.6/3/2015-NMET/380 dt. 12th December, 2023. As a result, since notification of this scheme, there has been a significant improvement in sanction of exploration projects by NMET to NPAs for critical, strategic minerals and deep-seated minerals. However, sanction of exploration projects by NMET to NPEAs for other minerals has not picked up. It has also been observed that there is a considerable delay in sanction of projects as well as release of funds to the NPEAs when these projects are routed through the State Governments.
- 1.3** In view of the above, it will be appropriate that the exploration of all major minerals other than minerals mentioned in Part B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 is funded directly by National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET). The project proposals submitted by Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEA) for all major minerals other than minerals mentioned in the Part B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 may directly be handled by NMET for approval and sanction.

1. Objective

- 1.1** The objective of the Scheme is to boost the exploration activities in the country by engaging NPEAs in mineral exploration of all major minerals other than minerals mentioned in the Part B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957 by the Central Government and to ease out the process of reimbursement/ funding of the operations by NPEA through NMET.

2. Procedure for Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies by Central Government and their Funding

2.1 General Conditions

- (i) The present scheme is applicable for exploration of all major minerals other than minerals mentioned in Part-B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act 1957.
- (ii) Exploration operations shall be undertaken in accordance with the provisions regarding such operations in the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents Rules) 2015, the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 (MCDR), the Guidelines for notification of accredited private exploration agencies issued by Ministry of Mines on 12th August, 2021 and any other applicable law for the time being in force.
- (iii) NPEA shall undertake exploration in respect of the category of minerals and mineral deposits under which it has been notified.
- (iv) Approval for exploration to NPEA or their funding from NMET shall not confer any right on the NPEA for grant of any mineral concession in the area explored. The mineral concession (composite licence, mining lease, etc.) in such explored area shall be granted in accordance with the provision of the MMDR Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder. A NPEA may participate in auction of mineral concession over the block or a part thereof which has been explored by such NPEA subject to provision of the MMDR Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder.
- (v) In case of exploration projects of minerals as mentioned in Part-D of First Schedule and Seventh Schedule of the MMDR amendment Act 2023, already sanctioned by NMET in the name of State Government to be executed by NPEA also, the NPEA will be eligible to participate in auction of these blocks.
- (vi) The details of any related party to the NPEA, participating in the auction for mining lease has to be declared beforehand to the Central Government/ State Government.

2.2 Mode of Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEA) and Funding by NMET for Exploration of all major minerals (other than minerals mentioned in the Part B of the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957)

The engagement of NPEA by Central Government and the funding of exploration projects will be done as per the following details:

- i. NPEA may select the area for exploration based on available geoscience data and submit a proposal in respect of the same to NMET. The geoscience data may be accessed from Geological Survey of India's baseline geoscience database available free of cost in the NGDR/Bhukosh portal of Geological Survey of India (GSI), database of other government or private agencies, etc.
- ii. NPEA may submit an application outlining the details of the area, mineral commodities, etc., it proposes for undertaking exploration to NMET in the format specified in Schedule to this Scheme (**Annexure 1**).
- iii. Upon receipt of such application from NPEA, NMET shall send the proposal to Geological Survey of India (GSI), State Government (DGM/DMG), Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) and Atomic Mineral Department (AMD, specifically for REE & RM) for their comments for submitting report on the feasibility for undertaking the item for the identified commodity within one month of the receipt of the application from NMET.
- iv. Upon receipt of comments from GSI, MECL, AMD and State Government (DGM/DMG), Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC), NMET shall grant the in-principle approval to NPEA or reject the proposal.
- v. Upon grant of in-principal approval, the NPEA shall prepare and submit the detailed exploration proposal to NMET within three months from the date of receipt of in-principle approval for evaluation for reconnaissance or prospecting surveys in the format prescribed.
- vi. The proposals submitted to NMET shall be evaluated and approved as per the prescribed procedure of NMET and the concerned NPEA will be responsible for defending the proposal before the TCC of NMET. Further, on recommendation of TCC the projects will be reviewed by Executive Committee (EC) of NMET for approval and sanction.
- vii. On approval of EC, NMET shall issue the sanction order to NPEA and funds will be released by NMET to NPEA as per the norms.

- viii. As per Rule 172 (1) Para (ii) of GFR 2017, in case the NPEA wishes to avail mobilization advance (up to 30% of the approved project cost), the NPEA has to submit a Bank Guarantee (BG, including e-bank guarantee) of equal value of advance to NMET. Advance paid will be adjusted in the first bill submitted by the NPEA and a Utilization Certificate of the same has to be submitted along with the bills. Further payment will be made on reimbursement basis against the bills submitted by NPEA. The BG should remain valid for a period of 60 days beyond the date of completion of project and acceptance of geological report by NMET. The Bank Guarantee will be released within 30 days after the settlement of mobilization advance.
- ix. The Deputy Director General, GSI will be the Nodal Officer from the respective State Unit Office of GSI who will examine/monitor the work executed by the NPEA in the State and verify the bills claimed by NPEA for such purpose. The NPEA will submit bill to NMET after verification/certification of the Nodal Officer.
- x. The NPEA undertaking exploration shall submit the yearly geological report(s) and final geological report(s) of the exploration projects to NMET, State Government and Regional Controller or the authorized officer of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) in accordance with rule 9 of MCDR, 2017. In case of projects with a timeline of more than one year, an interim report will be submitted by NPEA.
- xi. The raw data generated by NPEA during the prospecting operation shall be submitted to State Government, Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Regional Controller or the authorized officer of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM). Core logs generated by NPEA have to be submitted to the nearest Regional Core Library of GSI as per the SOP of GSI for this purpose in respect of the block.
- xii. The Central Government shall technically evaluate the geological report and decide about the potential mineral blocks which can further be taken up for auction. The Central Government or State Government, as the case may be, shall put the block for auction as per the procedure prescribed in the Mineral (Auction) Rules 2015 for grant of composite licence or mining lease, as the case may be. The Central Government shall mention the name of NPEA who has prepared the Geological Report in the tender document.

FORMAT FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSAL FOR UNDERTAKING EXPLORATION

To,
The Director & HoD,
National Mineral Exploration Trust,
Ministry of Mines
New Delhi - 110001

Madam/Sir,

I/we am/are submitting the following details for granting 'in-principle' approval by NMET on the proposal of reconnaissance or prospecting surveys to NMET under the "Scheme for Engagement of Notified Private Exploration Agencies in Mineral Exploration directly through National Mineral Exploration Trust issued by Ministry of Mines vide OM No.____dt_____.

1. Name and Address of the Applicant

(a)	Name of NPEA:	
(b)	Name of Authorized Signatory	
(c)	Postal address:	
(d)	Telephone Number (Office):	
(e)	Fax number (Office):	
(f)	Mobile No:	
(g)	Telephone Number (Residence):	
(h)	E-mail address:	

2. Details of Accreditation as Private Exploration Agency and Notification under the proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMRD Act

(a)	Date of accreditation granted by QCI-NABET:	
(b)	Date of expiry of accreditation:	
(c)	Date of Notification under the proviso to Section 4(1) of the MMRD Act:	
(d)	Date of expiry of Notification:	
(e)	Category of the exploration Agency (Category A or B) under Notification:	

3. Location Details of the Area Proposed

(a)	State	
(b)	District (s)/ Taluka(s)/ Block(s)	
(c)	Nearby Village (s)	
(d)	Survey of India (SOI) Toposheet (s) No.	
(e)	Area in sq. km.	
(f)	Boundary coordinates of the proposed block (in Decimal degree)	

4. Mineral Potential of the Area

(a)	Name of Mineral(s) identified/ expected in the area/ block	
(b)	Title of the Project with name of the block	
(c)	Stage of Exploration	
(d)	Basis on which mineral potential in the area has been identified	

5. Documents to be enclosed with the application

- (i) Location of the proposed block demarcated on Survey of India (SOI) Toposheet No.
- (ii) Documents mentioned in item 4(d) above.
- (iii) Other necessary documents

Place:**Date:****Signature of Applicant**

[Notified Private Exploration Agency Name]

Monthly Progress Report of Drilling

Project Name:

Block area: _____ sq. km

Total drilling targets:

No. of Boreholes:

Average borehole depth:

Schedule Timeline:

1. Drill Unit No.:

S. No.	Drilling Targets/Achievements	Drill Metrage (m)		Core Size	Core recovery (%)	Total (m)
		From	To			
I	Monthly Achievement (m)					
ii	Cumulative progress (m) (Since project inception to till date)					

2. Drill Unit No.:

S. No.	Drilling Targets/Achievements	Drill Metrage (m)		Core Size	Core recovery (%)	Total (m)
		From	To			
I	Monthly Achievement (m)					
ii	Cumulative progress (m) (Since project inception to till date)					

Acknowledgement

I,[Name of the Nodal Person] of M/s.....[Name of the NPEA] solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in the monthly progress is correct and complete.

[Signature]
[Name]

Annexure-D

Commodities wise drill core recovery (%) as given in Exploratory Drilling Guidelines for NMET Funded Projects, 2018.

Category	Mineral Commodity	Approx. Expected Core Recovery %
	Iron Ore	> 90%
Ferrous Group	Manganese	> 90%
	Chromite	> 90%
	Gold	> 95%
Precious Metals and Minerals	Platinum Group of Elements	> 95%
	Diamond	> 95%
	Gemstones	
	Base metals (Cu, Pb and Zn)	> 95%
	Bauxite	> 90%
Non-Ferrous & Strategic Minerals	REE and RM	> 95%
	Tin	> 95%
	Tungsten	> 95%
	Molybdenum	> 95%
	Nickel and Cobalt	> 95%
	Potash	> 85%
	Phosphorite	> 85%
	Graphite	> 90%
	Limestone	> 85%
Industrial and Fertilizer Minerals	Baryte	> 90%
	Dunite	> 90%
	Wollastonite	> 90%
	Andalusite, Kyanite & Sillimanite	> 90%
	Clay Deposits	> 80%
	Dimension Stone	> 90%

Annexure-E

[Notified Private Exploration Agency Name]

Monthly Progress Report [MPR] for the month of _____

(Block details: Name/Commodity/Exploration Stage/ID/T.S/District/State/Exploration Agency)

Name of the Project	Date of Approval	Date of Commencement	Whether delay in commencement/Timeline extension (if any) is approved by NMET	Remarks

Nature and Quantum of work (Target assigned and achieved)

S. No.	Nature of work*	Target assigned	Work Progress during the current month_____	Cumulative progress since_____	Remarks
1	Aerial Reconnaissance : PGRS studies (1:25/50,000) (sq km)				
2	Topographical Survey- (DGPS/Total Station Survey)/Drone (sq km)				
3	Geological Mapping (LSM/DM) (sq km)				
4	Geophysical Surveys (Gravity, Magnetic Stn), Nos				
5	Technological				
	(a) Surface exploration-Pitting/trenching (cu m)				
	(b) Sub Surface exploration- Drilling (m)				
6	Geochemical survey				
	(a) Bed Rock Sample (Nos.)				
	(b) Stream Sediment Sample (Nos.)				
	(c) Core Sample (Nos.)				
	(d) PT sample (Nos.)				
7	Petrographic/ Mineragraphic/Other studies				
	(a) Petrographic (Nos.)				
	(b) ICPMS (Nos.)				
	(c) Petrographic Core (Nos.)				

	(d) Ore Microscopy (Nos.)				
	(e) XRD				
	(f) Sp. Gravity				
8	Chemical Analysis				
	(a) Chemical Analysis:				
	(b) Internal Check samples (5% of Primary samples)				
	(c) External Check sample (10 % of Primary samples)				
	(d) Composite samples				

*The list of work components [Nature of work] will be as per the approved project proposal by NMET.

Highlights/Summary/Remarks, if any:

[Signature of Authorized Person of NPEAs]

Acknowledgement

I,[Name of the Nodal Person] of M/s.....[Name of the NPEA] solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in the monthly progress is correct and complete.

[Signature]

[Name]

[Notified Private Exploration Agency Name]

DETAILS OF SAMPLES COLLECTED

Name of the sampler:

Toposheet No.:

Date:

S. No.	Sample Number	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation (m)	Sample Type	Lithology	Land use	Landscape/ Site/ Photo	Depth of sample	Geology/ Formation	Area/ District/ State	Remarks
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												

Note.

Sample type: Bed Rock Sample (BRS), Regolith, Stream sediment, Slope Wash, Soil; Water: Stream water (SW), Spring water (SP), Well water (WW), Drill core sample (CS)

Lithology: Four letter code may be used. Example. Granite (GRAN), Amphibolite (AMP), Quartzite (QUART), etc.

Landuse: Agriculture (A), Pasture land (P), Forest (F), Barren (B), Other specific

Landscape: Plain (P), Undulating (U), Rugged (R)

Acknowledgement

I,[Name of the Nodal Person] of M/s.....[Name of the NPEA] solemnly declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in the details of sample collected is correct and complete.

[Signature]

[Name]