

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

F. No. 143/1/2026-NMEDT/407

New Delhi, July 16, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Circulation of Overseas Mineral Exploration Promotion Guidelines-reg.

With a view to promote Indian public and private sector entities to undertake mineral exploration in overseas jurisdictions for securing long-term mineral supply chains and reduce import dependency, the Guidelines for Overseas Mineral Exploration Promotion have been formulated. The Guidelines have been approved by Hon'ble Union Minister of Mines.

The Guidelines including objectives, eligibility criteria, institutional mechanism etc. are attached for kind information.

Digitally signed by
Geetika Sharma
Date: 16-07-2026 19:12:50

(Geetika Sharma)
Director

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 Principal Secretary (Industry and Mines), Government of Gujarat.
8. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries), Government of Himachal Pradesh.

9. The Principal Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Haryana
10. The Commissioner Secretary (Industries and Commerce), Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
11. The Secretary (Industries, Mines and Geology), Government of Jharkhand.
12. The Secretary, (Industries and Commerce), Government of Karnataka.
13. The Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Kerala.
14. The Secretary, Department of Industries, Union Territory of Ladakh.
15. The Secretary, Mineral Resource Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh.
16. The Addl. Chief Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Maharashtra.
17. The Commissioner and Secretary, Mining and Geology Department, Government of Meghalaya.
18. The Secretary, Commerce and Industries, Government of Mizoram.
19. The Secretary, Textiles, Commerce and Industry, Government of Manipur.
20. The Commissioner & Secretary, Geology and Mining, Government of Nagaland.
21. The Principal Secretary (Steel and Mines), Government of Odisha.
22. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology, Government of Punjab.
23. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Rajasthan.
24. The Principal Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Government of Sikkim.
25. The Secretary, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Tripura
26. The Principal Secretary (Industries), Government of Tamil Nadu.
27. The Principal Secretary (Industries and Mines), Government of Telangana.
28. The Secretary (Mines and Geology), Government of Uttar Pradesh.
29. The Principal Secretary (Mines), Government of Uttarakhand.
30. The Secretary (Industry, Commerce and Enterprises), Government of West Bengal.

Copy to

1. The ADG, PSS GSI, CHQ, 27 JLN Road, Kolkata-700016.
2. The General Manager (Exploration), Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur
3. Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited Kanke Rd, CMPDI Complex, Gondwana Place, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834008
4. The Dy. Director General, PSS, GSI, CHQ, 27 JLN Road, Kolkata-700016
5. Shri Atul Rathore, APC Drilling & Construction Private Limited, Room No.153/C7, Third floor, R.Gopal Complex Salem Road Namakkal, Tamil

Nadu.

6. Shri Shekhar Joshi, Bhushilp Mines and Minerals Pvt Ltd, Gajanan Sanmitra Co. Op, Plot No. 186, Trisaran Nagar, Shastri Layout, Khamla, Nagpur, Maharashtra-440022.
7. Shri Anirudh Srivastava, BMRC Geomining Solutions Pvt Ltd, C-20 Sector, C1 LDA Colony, Kanpur Road , Lucknow Pin - 226012, Uttar Pradesh.
8. Shri Vikram K Y, Critical Mineral Trackers, 406, Concourse Bldg., Greenland's Main Road, OPP Lal Bungalow, Hyderabad CMT Geo Solution Center, E5, 3rd Floor, Technology Research Park, IIT, Kandi Hyderabad 500016, Telangana.
9. Shri Pradeep Agarwal, Deepsar Mineral Explorer, 6 Ka 16, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur
10. Shri Manorama Mohapatra, Eartnenviro Lab Private Limited, Shop no-36,BDA PH-II CSPUR, Sailashree Vihar, Bhubaneswar.
11. Shri Indraneel Dawande, Engeotech Consultant, 1338, Vijay Nagar Kachnar City Road Jabalpur-482002, Madhya Pradesh.
12. Smt. Sunita Mantri, Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd., 92,Heera Nagar-A,Near Shalimar Bagh, Ajmer Road, Jaipur , Rajasthan – 302021 .
13. Dr. Neeraj Srivastave, Envirogreen Consultants (India) Private Limited, 1B, Macchla, Magra, Near, Patel Circle, Udaipur, Rajasthan 313002.
14. Shri Nigel Job, Gemcokati Exploration Private Limited, Plot No 34, Bapat Nagar, , Chandrapur , Maharashtra – 442401.
15. Shri Deepak Kumar Swain, GEMS Project Pvt Ltd, 1236/2, Lajpat Nagar, Pundag Ranchi, Jharkhand-834004.
16. Shri Dr. Ifthikhar Ahmed, Geo Exploration and Mining Solution, 17, Advaita Ashram Rd, Arthanari Nagar, Fairlands, Salem, Tamil Nadu 636004.
17. Shri P. Praveen Kumar, Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Door No. 15-17-909/9, 5th Cross Shivbagh, Kadri, Behind Silverwood apartment, Leslie, Haven Compound, Mangalore - 575005 Karnataka.
18. Shri Channamallik arjun B. Patil, GeoExpOre Pvt Ltd, No. 45 S 2nd A Main, 2nd Cross, Chandralayout, Bengaluru – 560040.
19. Shri Dr. S. Karuppannan, Geotechnical Mining Solutions, 1/213B Natesan Complex Tamil Nadu, Dharmapuri – 636705.
20. Shri Biplob Chatterjee, Geovale Services Pvt Ltd, GN 38/5, 3rd Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700 091, India West Bengal.
21. Shri Manvender Bharti, GMMCO Technology Services Ltd, 9A, Vaishnavi Cymbol, Financial District, Hyderabad, Nanakramguda, Telangana - 500032..
22. Shri Rajil Chaudhary, Hindmetal Exploration Services Private Limited, Yashad Bhawan, Opp Swaroop Sagar,Udaipur, Rajasthan.
23. Shri Dr. Nirode Behari Chanda, Indian Mine Planners & Consultants, GE-61 Rajdanga Main Road, Behind Vivanta Hotel, West Bengal, Kolkata – 700107.
24. Shri Nitin Kohad, Kartikay Exploration & Mining Services Pvt. Ltd, 101 &

- 102, Bhaskar Building Near MLA Hostel, Civil Lines, Nagpur, Maharashtra – 440001.
25. Smt Bhavana Singh, Kundan Concentrates Private Limited, 3, Scindia House, 2nd Floor, Janpath, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.
 26. Smt Anusrita Thakur, Maheshwari Mining Private Limited (MMPL Private Limited), 21, CLM Lane, Raniganj, Dist: Burdwan, West Bengal.
 27. Mining Associates Private Limited, Plot no. 110, Main Dhemo, Beside Railway Siding, P.O. - Sitarampur, Asansol Dist. Paschim Bardhaman, West Bengal -713359.
 28. Mining Tech Consultancy Services Limited, A 121, Paryavaran Complex, IGNOU Road, -110030, IGNOU Road, New Delhi, Delhi 110030.
 29. My World Consultancy Services Private Limited, My World Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd, Plot No: 766, Telengapentha, Cuttack, Odisha-754001.
 30. Natural Resources Division-Tata Steel Limited, Natural Resources Division, Room No 349, 3rd Floor, Commercial Centre, General Office, Tata Steel Ltd, Bistupur, Jamshedpur – 831001.
 31. Ocean Drilling and Exploration Private Limited, 24 A, Shanti Nagar, Near Diamond Residency, Jhotwara-302012, Rajasthan.
 32. Shri Bhupendra M. Raghushe, PRB Infraprojects Private Limited, S-3, 2nd Floor, Beside Indian Oil Petrol Pump, Medical Square, Nagpur–440024.
 33. Shri Om Prakash Somani, Ramgad Minerals and Mining Limited, Baldota Enclave, AbherajBaldota Road, Hosapete 583203.
 34. Shri M.A.Samad, S and S Geological Consultants, H.No-6-2-37/A, Second Floor, Midas Touch Commercial Complex, Lakdikapul, Hyderabad -500004, Telangana.
 35. Shri Shubham Banerjee, Shijay Projects India Private Limited, A-23,24,25, Ground Floor, Logix Technova, Noida Sector 132, Uttar Pradesh.
 36. Shri Siddharth Singh, Siddharth Geo. Consultant, 621/3, First Floor, Ramkund, Samta Colony, Behind Life Worth Hospital Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
 37. Shri Karunakar Gandarapu, Steiger Geoscience and Engineering Private Limited, Steiger Geoscience and Engineering Private Limited 3rd Floor, 2-2-24/A/46, D.D. Colony, Bagh Amberpet, Hyderabad 500 013, Telangana .
 38. Smt Dr. Sonali Guha, Synergy Geotech Private Limited, 51, Wardha Rd, Panchdip Nagar, Narendra Nagar, Somalwada, Nagpur, Maharashtra 440025.
 39. Shri Neeraj, Unised Research Consultants Private Limited, 152 Sector-B, New Vistar Yojana, Jarouli Phase-II, Barra Kanpur, Kanpur Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, 208027.
 40. Shri Joydeep Banerjee, United Exploration India Pvt. Ltd., Tower 2A, 5th Floor, Action Area II, Ecospace Business Park, Rajarhat, New Town, Kolkata, West Bengal-700156.

41. Shri Anshul Yadav, Vardan Environet Llp, Plot No. 82A, Sector 5, IMT Manesar, Gurgaon- 122051, Haryana.
42. Shri Raj Kumar Yadav, Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited, Steiger Geoscience and Engineering Private Limited 3rd Floor, 2-2-24/A/46, D.D. Colony, Bagh Amberpet, Hyderabad 500 013, Telangana Above SBI DD colony branch Phone: 9799397960.
43. Shri Abhijit Pednekar, Infrastructure Logistics Private Limited, 205, 2ndFloor, Kamat Metropolis-I, Behind Caculo Mall, St Inez Panaji North Goa 403001.
44. Shri Soumi Chakraborty, Novomine India Private Limited, 4th Floor, Building No-65, Opp-The Children's Hospital, Pohkseh, Shillong, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya-793006.
45. FCI Aravali, Gypsum and Minerals Ltd, B Rd, Bhadwasiya, Paota, Jodhpur, Rajasthan 342001
46. OMC Limited, Gopabandhu Marg, Unit-IV, Keshari Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751001
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Copy for kind information to :

1. P.S. to Hon'ble Union Minister of Mines
2. OSD to Hon'ble Minister of State of Mines
3. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Mines
4. Technical Secretary to Director General, GSI
5. PPS to Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Mines
6. TS to Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines
7. PPS to JS & FA, Ministry of Mines
8. PPS to JS (FMN), Ministry of Mines
9. PPS to JS (NCMM), Ministry of Mines
10. PS to Director General, NMEDT
11. Members of Executive Committee, NMEDT
12. Chairmen and members, TCC-I and TCC-II, NMEDT
13. Members of Project Sanctioning Committee, NMEDT

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration & Development Trust

Overseas Mineral Exploration Promotion Guidelines

1. Preamble and Background

India's domestic reserves of several critical and strategic minerals — including lithium, cobalt, nickel, copper, graphite, and rare earth elements — are limited or unproven, while demand is rising sharply due to the energy transition, electric mobility, electronics, and defence manufacturing sectors.

To secure long-term mineral supply chains and reduce import dependency, the Government of India intends to promote Indian public and private sector entities to undertake mineral exploration in overseas jurisdictions, with a clear and binding requirement that any minerals discovered are made available to meet India's domestic requirements.

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2025 has significantly broadened the mandate of the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT). The Trust, originally established to promote mineral exploration within India, has now been empowered to utilise its funds for exploration and development of mines and minerals within India, including offshore areas, and outside India. The amendment also recognises the strategic importance of critical minerals and positions NMEDT as a key instrument for supporting domestic, offshore and overseas initiatives aimed at securing India's long-term mineral and supply-chain security.

NMEDT does not possess the institutional wherewithal to directly operate a fund in overseas jurisdictions, nor the requisite experience in executing or monitoring overseas mineral exploration projects. Accordingly, these Guidelines are a structured fund channelling mechanism under which the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) shall provide financial support, to exploration agencies for overseas mineral exploration, through one or more such institutional arrangements, fund structures, or special purpose vehicles, hereinafter called as Designated Agency ("DA") that meets the eligibility criteria specified in Section 5 of these Guidelines. The "DA" shall leverage this seed capital to raise additional debt and equity from capital markets globally and other finance mechanism, for overseas mineral exploration financing.

2. Short Title and Commencement

- a. These guidelines may be called the "Overseas Mineral Exploration Promotion Guidelines" (OMEPPG).
- b. The Guidelines shall come into force from the date of issuance by NMEDT after approval from Governing Body, NMEDT and shall remain in operation until reviewed or withdrawn.

3. Objectives

- a. To incentivise Indian entities or foreign subsidiaries/Joint Ventures/SPVs of Indian entities to explore critical mineral (as notified under MMDR Act, 1957)

assets in foreign jurisdictions.

- b. To ensure that mineral resources and reserves discovered through Government-supported overseas exploration are made available to industry in India through binding bring-back obligations.
- c. To establish a financially sustainable, leveraged fund structure under which seed capital provided by NMEDT is multiplied through debt and equity raised by the “DA” from capital markets globally, thereby maximising the volume of financing available.
- d. To ensure that the beneficiary projects of this fund are effectively monitored.
- e. To strengthen India’s strategic mineral security and reduce dependence on a limited number of source countries.

4. Definitions

For the purposes of these Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a. “Bring-Back Obligation” means the binding commitment of the Exploration Agency or “EA” (as defined in 4(e)) to make the discovered mineral resource, or an agreed minimum share thereof, available for supply in India
- b. “Critical Minerals” means minerals notified under the MMDR Act, 1957 as amended from time to time.
- c. “Designated Agency” (“DA”) means an agency meeting the eligibility criteria specified in Section 5, engaged by NMEDT for administering financial assistance under these Guidelines. There can be more than one Designated Agency under these Guidelines.
- d. Exploration Success” means identification of mineral resources and reserves in accordance with relevant international standards, as may be applicable, and certified by the internationally reputed independent mining consultancy firm having certified Independent Technical auditor within the approved exploration period.
- e. “Exploration Agency” (“EA”) means an eligible agency as defined in Section 6, seeking funds from “DA”.
- f. “Financial Support” means the support extended from the OMEF to the “EA” under these “Guidelines” towards eligible overseas exploration expenditure, from OMEF (as defined in 4(j)).
- g. “Guidelines” means the Overseas Mineral Exploration Promotion Guidelines (OMEPPG).
- h. “National Critical Mineral Mission” or “NCMM” means the mission of that name notified by the Government of India, within whose mandate the overseas programme expenditure under these Guidelines is undertaken, and references to “the Mission” in these Guidelines shall mean the NCMM.
- i. “NMEDT” means the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust, constituted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, functioning under the Ministry of Mines, and serving as the Nodal Agency under these Guidelines.
- j. “Overseas Mineral Exploration Fund” or “OMEF” means the dedicated fund established within the “DA” for the purposes of these Guidelines, funded by NMEDT financial support/seed capital, contribution of DA/parent body and capital leveraged through international debt and equity.

5. Eligibility Criteria for Designated Agency

(i) Any company/financial institution/Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)/Joint Venture meeting the following criteria may apply and give a proposal to be engaged as “Designated Agency” under these Guidelines:

- a. The entity should be wholly or majority owned by, or be a subsidiary of, a Government of India owned or controlled financial institution, or be otherwise approved by the Ministry of Mines/Ministry of Finance as a suitable vehicle to receive and deploy seed capital outside India. The net worth of the entity, for the previous FY, should be not less than the NMEDT seed capital sought under the application.
- b. The entity/parent body must have a proven track record and institutional capability in raising debt and/or equity from capital markets globally, financial institutions, or sovereign wealth funds.
- c. The entity must hold, or be capable of obtaining, all regulatory approvals/licences and statutory authorisations required in its jurisdiction of incorporation to manage and deploy an investment fund of this nature.
- d. The entity must agree to maintain the OMEF as a ring-fenced, segregated fund insulated from other commitments/liability/risk exposure, and to comply with the governance, reporting, and audit requirements set out in the contribution agreement between NMEDT & “DA”.

(ii) Entities meeting the above criteria, may apply along with the proposal to NMEDT to be considered for engagement as “DA”. Applications shall be evaluated by a committee, hereinafter called the “Proposal Evaluation Committee” (PEC), comprising of following members:

- a. Additional Secretary, Chairperson
- b. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines who is in-charge of GSI or Exploration;
- c. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Mines who is in-charge of National Critical Mineral Mission
- d. Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs
- e. Joint Secretary and Financial Advisor, Ministry of Mines
- f. Director General, NMEDT, Member Secretary

The PEC may consult relevant experts in the matter. The recommendations made by the PEC along with a formal contribution agreement as described in Section 8 shall be placed before the Executive Committee of NMEDT, and the recommendation of Executive Committee will be submitted for approval of Union Minister of Mines, Chairperson, Governing Body, NMEDT.

6. Exploration Agency

- a. Central / State Public Sector Enterprises engaged in exploration and mining of minerals, coal, hydrocarbon etc., including oil & petroleum.
- b. Indian private companies registered under the Companies Act, 2013, with technical and financial capability in mineral exploration or mining. Indian companies or foreign subsidiaries of Indian companies acquiring minority

stake in a mining company can also be considered on a case to case basis by the “DA” provided bring back obligation is fulfilled.

- c. Joint Ventures, SPVs or subsidiaries formed for overseas mineral exploration or mining, provided the Indian consortium collectively hold not less than 51% of equity and exercise effective control.

Following conditions are to be fulfilled mandatorily by all Exploration Agencies:

- d. The “EA” must hold enforceable exploration, development & mining rights in the overseas jurisdiction where the project is located, evidenced by a valid licence, concession, permit, lease, or equivalent instrument issued by the competent authority of that jurisdiction.
- e. The “EA” must also be free of any default on statutory dues, obligations, and must meet minimum net-worth and technical-experience thresholds separately notified by the Designated Agency.
- f. The “EA” seeking “Financial Support” from the “DA” must enter into a legally enforceable agreement with it for fulfilling mandatory bring back obligation. The nature & form of bring back obligation will be decided on case-to-case basis.

7. Scope of Minerals Covered

The Guidelines shall apply to exploration projects targeting minerals notified as Critical Minerals under the MMDR Act, 1957 as amended from time to time.

8. NMEDT – Designated Agency Channeling and Leverage Mechanism

The National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) shall serve as the primary source of seed capital for the purpose of these Guidelines. The contribution of NMEDT is intended to operate as long-tenure, catalytic capital for mobilising additional debt and equity for overseas mineral exploration. The fund flow shall operate as follows:

- a. The fund shall be transferred by NMEDT to the “DA”, against a formal Contribution Agreement executed between NMEDT and the Designated Agency, setting out the terms of deployment, monitoring, reporting and due diligence.
- b. The “DA” shall hold these contributed funds as the seed capital of the OMEF, maintained in a segregated account, ring-fenced from the “DA’s” other operations insulated from other commitments/liability/risk exposure.
- c. The Designated Agency shall have flexibility to determine the optimal debt-equity structure, leverage ratio, portfolio composition and risk-management arrangements of the OMEF, consistent with prudent financial practices and the objectives of these Guidelines.

9. Quantum of Support and Disbursement to EA

9.1 Quantum of Support

- a. Subsequent to acceptance of the “Contribution Agreement” between NMEDT & “DA” the “Financial Support” (Refer 4(f)) shall be available. The ceilings prescribed in Table-1 are indicative maximum limits and do not create any entitlement in favour of an applicant.
- b. The exact quantum to “EA” will be decided on case-to-case basis by “DA”, subject to availability of funds in the OMEF corpus. The “DA” will make the funds available to EA only after their exploration proposal is vetted by leading internationally reputed independent mining consulting firms.
- c. Disbursement of “Financial Support” from the OMEF shall be made in tranches linked to completion of pre-defined milestones set out in the Project Work Programme, approved by the “DA” only after vetting by a reputed consultancy firm. The said consultancy firm inter-alia must have minimum 10 years of international mining consulting experience, proven capability to issue technical reports compliant with prevalent international standards and have no conflict of interest with project promoters (disclosure of ultimate corporate ownership to allow NMEDT to check for cross-panel overlap).

Table 1

Stage of Exploration	Maximum Contribution
Reconnaissance / Target Generation (G4)	Upto 100 crores
Prospecting / Resource Drilling (G3)	Upto 300 crores

9.2 Disbursement from OMEF to EA

The “EA” shall execute a binding Mineral Offtake/Supply Agreement committing to make available such percentage or quantity as may be specified in the approval letter or financing agreement of the discovered resource for supply to end-users in India at arm’s-length international prices.

10. Refund of Disbursed Financial Support

- a. Upon completion of the approved exploration programme, where the project is certified as an Exploration Success by a reputed consulting firm in accordance with internationally recognised reporting standards as may be applicable, the beneficiary Exploration Agency ("EA") shall suitably repay the Financial Support received from the Designated Agency ("DA") in accordance

with the terms and conditions specified in the Financing Agreement executed between the "DA" and the "EA".

- b. The Financing Agreement shall, inter alia, specify the mechanism for repayment, timelines for recovery, applicable interest, equity conversion etc.
- c. The "DA" shall, in accordance with its approved investment and risk-management policies, obtain such security arrangements as may be considered necessary for safeguarding and recovery of the Financial Support, including, but not limited to, corporate guarantees, pledge of shares, assignment of project rights, escrow of project revenues, charge on assets, or any other security mechanism permitted under applicable laws.

11. Monitoring & Compliance Requirements

- a. Monthly progress reports shall be submitted to NMEDT detailing physical and financial progress against the approved Work Programme.
- b. Quarterly progress report of physical and financial progress shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee of NMEDT against the approved work programme.
- c. NMEDT and/or the "DA" shall have the right to conduct site visits and technical audits at any stage.
- d. All exploration data, reports, and resource estimates generated under the Guidelines shall be shared with NMEDT, and treated as confidential except as required for certification purposes.

12. Institutional Mechanism

The institutional mechanism for these Guidelines shall comprise the Governing Body of NMEDT, the Executive Committee of NMEDT, NMEDT (as Nodal Agency), Project Evaluation Committee, "Designated Agency" or any other body as may be constituted by the Government.

The "DA", being an entity meeting the eligibility criteria set out in Section 5 (i), shall be responsible for managing the OMEF, raising leverage, deploying "Financial Support" to "EA", collecting repayments, and servicing debt raised from international markets. It shall have operational autonomy in investment decisions, fund deployment, leverage arrangements and risk management, subject to these Guidelines and the Contribution Agreement.

13. Release of funds to DA by NMEDT

Each Tranche of seed fund to the "DA", after it is processed by NMEDT, will be examined by the Project Evaluation Committee as provided in Section 5 (ii) of these Guidelines. The report of the PEC will be considered by the Executive Committee of NMEDT and its recommendation approved by Union Minister of Mines, Chairperson, Governing Body, NMEDT.

14. Regulatory and Other Facilitative Provisions

- a. NMEDT will ensure that all the statutory compliances including FEMA etc. are adhered to.
- b. NMEDT's contribution to the "DA" shall be treated as an "overseas programme expenditure" within NMEDT's mandate with respect to National Critical Mineral Mission.

15. General Provisions

- a. NMEDT reserves the right to amend, modify, or discontinue these guidelines at any time in public interest.
- b. These Guidelines shall be read together with the Contribution Agreement (NMEDT – "DA"), the Funding Agreement ("DA"–"EA"), and the Offtake Agreement.
- c. Interest accrued on unutilized seed fund provided by NMEDT to DA shall be added to the seed fund.
- d. If the Designated Agency materially breaches the terms of the Contribution Agreement or fails to utilise the seed capital in accordance with these Guidelines and the approved investment policy, NMEDT may require the Designated Agency to refund the funds provided by NMEDT along with applicable interest.
- e. No amendment to these Guidelines shall adversely affect the rights and obligations arising under existing Contribution Agreements or Funding Agreements unless mutually agreed by the parties.
- f. NMEDT shall formally notify the "DA" of the end date for the application of these guidelines. Thereafter, the "DA" shall not sanction or provide financial assistance for any new project under these Guidelines and return any seed fund that is not committed along with accrued interest. However, projects already sanctioned prior to such notification may continue until their completion and closure in accordance with these Guidelines.
- g. NMEDT shall determine the treatment of unutilised funds, assets and liabilities under these guidelines.
- h. The Designated Agency, its promoters, directors, employees, consultants and advisers shall disclose all actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest and shall not participate in any decision where such conflict exists.