

From Sri Sarat Kumar Jena Dy.Director General (Retd)GSI Flat No.A 101, Palm Height Apartments .Shampur Po: mahalaxmi vihar Via Baramunda Bhubaneswar 751029	To THE HOD (EXPLORATION) Exploration division,(MECL) Mineral Exploration and consultancy Ltd. (a Government India Enterprise) Dr.Babasaheb Ambed kar Bhavan Seminary Hills, Nagpur PIN:440006
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Sub: Regarding Peer Reviewed “Preliminary Exploration(G3), for Iron & Bauxite ore in Amoch Chhapra block (4.86 sq. kms) dist Jabalpur & Katni, Madhya Pradesh”

Ref: i). Your letter no MECL/EXPL/FILE/NMET/P.R/2025-26/21 ,Dated 07-04-2026

ii) NMET letter no.F.No.44/1/2017-NMET/3, dt.6-04-2026.

Report received by email on dt.07-04-2026 & hardcopy by speed post on 17-04-2026

Sir

With reference to above letter , I have enclosed the peer reviewed report titled **“Preliminary Exploration(G3), for Iron & Bauxite ore in Amoch Chhapra block (4.86 sq.kms) dist Jabalpur & Katni, Madhya Pradesh”** after completion for necessary corrections. The observations, and suggestions for modifications where ever necessary is attached in a separate sheet and also in the body of report for your information.

2. Further as per instruction of director NMET, the corrected Geological report along with annexures, Images, shape files ,text and pdf files adhere to the prescribed scheme Annexure-1(as per MERT format of NGDR) completed with all respect to be submitted to NMET, for uploading in NGDR portal.

3. Copy of the submission letter of corrected report pl be provided to the undersigned for information.

4. Pl arrange to pay the honorarium for the peer review, in My SB A/C no.34500210767 & IFSC SBIN0003116, SBI, ADB Bidyadharpur Cuttack.

Thanking you

Yours Faithfully



Sarat Kumar Jena

Copy to: The HOD, NMEDT Secretariat, Room No.325&326, wing- F, Udyog Bhawan, Dr Rafi Ahmad Kidwai marg, Rajpath area, Central secretariat ,New Delhi-11001.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR MODIFICATION

In the Peer Review Report titled “**Preliminary Exploration(G3), for Iron & Bauxite ore in Amoch Chhapra block (4.86 sq. kms) dist Jabalpur & Katni, Madhya Pradesh**”

1. TEXT

- i. **Ch-4.4.1:** though primary focus of program is exploration for Iron ore and Bauxite in the block, at least Iron ore occurrences, to be mentioned.
- ii. **CH.7.2& Ch.8.2.3.:** Results of previous analytical data of BRS/Channel/Pit samples for Iron, Bauxite etc for this block may be mentioned.
- iii. **CH.7.22: field Photograph no.7** , Banded hematite chert present in this block, so dimension , trend etc may be given for this rock type as studied in the outcrop.
- iv. **Ch.7.4.1:** within duricrust the pockets of iron shows Fe upto 30%.Pl specify size and volume of iron pockets w.r.to laterite.

Also find out from abandon mines or pits the presence of BIF units if any below laterite zone of this block.

2.PLATES:

i) **PLATE NO.II & III.** structural data to be plotted as mentioned in the text. Also show contours in the plate no.III & name of section lines.

ii) **Plate no.V:** The BH no.MBAC-1 fall outside the polygon no.1.pl check

iii) Cross sections:

In the Index, the units a) Ferruginous aluminous laterite & Ferruginous laterite , b)Aluminous Laterite& siliceous aluminous laterite may be clubbed into one unit each, as the symbol for both units nearly same in section lines and falls within one zone.

Put Index for the litho unit marked in parallel lines in the Plate no. IVF.

Attend to corrections and queries as indicated in the hardcopy

CONCLUSION:

1. Overall documentation and interpretation of collected data in the Geological Report titled Preliminary Exploration(G3), for Iron & Bauxite ore in Amoch Chhapra block (4.86 sq.kms) dist Jabalpur & Katni, Madhya Pradesh ,is good.
2. Analytical data pertaining to the Amoch-Chhapra block for iron ore, Bauxite from BRS/Pit/channel samples, previously recorded during ***Reconnaissance survey(G4) for Iron ,Manganese and associated minerals in Salaiya block ,dist Jabalpur, Katni & Umariya, state Madhya Pradesh, March 2024*** to be mentioned in the text(chapter 7.2, page 20 to justify taking up G3 stage of exploration.
3. As per the drilling Program few deep boreholes can be planned to establish the stratigraphic columns and associate minerals (iron) if any for this block at depth, below aluminous laterite .



20-04-2026

Bhubaneswar

Sarat kumar Jena

Sl. No.	Comments	Action
1	Ch-4.4.1: though primary focus of program is exploration for Iron ore and Bauxite in the block, at least Iron ore occurrences, to be mentioned.	The presence of iron ore occurrences has been re-examined; however, no samples meeting the IBM threshold grade of 35% Fe were recorded. Accordingly, iron ore mineralization is not established in the block, and this has been clarified in the revised text.
2	CH.7.2& Ch.8.2.3. : Results of previous analytical data of BRS/Channel/Pit samples for Iron, Bauxite etc for this block may be mentioned.	The comment is well noted. The results of previous analytical data have been incorporated in the revised text. During the Reconnaissance Survey (G4) in the Salaiya block, a total of 35 channel samples were analyzed, out of which 13 samples fall within the present Amoch–Chhapra block boundary. The analytical results of these samples have been included and discussed to provide supporting baseline information.
3	CH.7.22: field Photograph no.7 , Banded hematite chert present in this block, so dimension , trend etc may be given for this rock type as studied in the outcrop.	The comment is noted, and details on the dimension, trend, and field characteristics of the banded hematite chert have been incorporated in the relevant section.
4	Ch.7.4.1: within duricrust the pockets of iron shows Fe upto 30%.Pl specify size and volume of iron pockets w.r.to laterite.	The comment is noted. The iron-rich pockets observed within the duricrust are highly localized, typically ranging from a few centimetres up to about 1 m in size, and lack lateral continuity. Their volume is insignificant with respect to the overall lateritic body, and hence they do not constitute any mappable or economically viable iron ore occurrence.
5	PLATE NO.II & III. structural data to be plotted as mentioned in the text. Also show contours in the plate no.III & name of section lines.	The comment is noted. Due to extensive laterite and lateritic soil cover within the block, prominent structural features are not well exposed. Some structural measurements were recorded from nearby road-cut sections located outside the block boundary; these were not included in the earlier map but have now been incorporated in the revised map along with limited data points obtained from within the block.
6	Plate no.V: The BH no.MBAC-1 fall outside the polygon no.1.pl check	The comment is noted. The polygons have been delineated based on the observed lateral extent of the lateritic unit. Borehole MBAC-1 is located at the margin/beyond the lateritic boundary, within lateritic soil, and hence appears outside Polygon No. 1 in the map. However, its geological and analytical data have been duly considered while assigning the zone of influence, and its contribution has been incorporated in the resource estimation of the respective polygon.
7	In the Index, the units a) Ferruginous aluminous laterite & Ferruginous laterite , b)Aluminous Laterite& siliceous aluminous laterite may be clubbed into one unit each, as the symbol for both units nearly same in section lines and falls within one zone.	<p>The comment is noted. However, the units “Ferruginous aluminous laterite” and “Ferruginous laterite” have been retained separately as they differ in chemical composition, particularly with respect to Al_2O_3 content. The former contains $>20\% \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ and is considered for aluminous laterite resource estimation, whereas the latter does not meet the cutoff criteria.</p> <p>Similarly, “Aluminous laterite” and “Siliceous aluminous laterite” are also compositionally distinct, with the latter having comparatively higher silica content. Although both are included in resource estimation, their separation is maintained to reflect compositional variation within the mineralized zone.</p> <p>However, their close spatial association is duly reflected in the section lines.</p>