

**Ministry of Mines**  
**National Mineral Exploration & Development Trust**  
**Minutes of 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical-cum-Cost Committee - II (TCC - II)**  
**held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026**

The 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of Technical-cum-Cost Committee-II (TCC-II) of National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) was convened through video conferencing under the Chairmanship of Shri Pradeep Singh, Deputy Director General (DDG), Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Chairman, TCC-II, NMEDT held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026.

Members of TCC-II, NMEDT and representatives from M/s Maheshwari Mining Private Limited (MMPL), M/s GEMS Project Private Limited, M/s Gemcokati Exploration Private Limited, M/s Ocean Drilling and Exploration Private Limited, M/s BMRC Geomining Solutions Private Limited, FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited (FAGMIL), M/s Critical mineral trackers (CMT), M/s. GeoExpOre Private Limited, M/s Engeotech Consultant, Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), M/s Geovale Services Private Limited, M/s Eartnenviro Lab Private Limited, M/s S and S Geological Consultants, M/s Vibrant Techno Lab Private Limited, M/s Enkay Enviro Services Private Limited, M/s GMMCO Technology Services Limited, DGM Maharashtra, DGM Madhya Pradesh etc. have attended the meeting through video conferencing mode. The list of participants is at **Annexure-1**.

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

Shri Pradeep Singh further informed that in the past few meetings of TCC-II, it has been observed that certain projects are being recommended for pre-closure due to insignificant values of the targeted commodity in the area and/or other constraints. In such cases, where the sample values are not encouraging or the work cannot proceed further due to law-and-order issues, forest-related constraints etc., the concerned agencies must promptly approach TCC-II for a review, so that a timely decision for foreclosure of the project could be taken up to reduce unnecessary expenditure. He further stated that in any instance where there is a change in the quantum of work, either proposed by the agency or recommended by TCC-II, prior approval of the revised quantum of work along with a revised cost sheet must be presented before the TCC to obtain approval from the Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) before commencement of revised quantum of work. Additionally, in case of proposals related to limestone, an endorsement from the State Government is required.

**24.1 Technical Evaluation of New Project Proposals**

**Agenda 24.1.1 General Exploration (G2) for REE and Base metal in Lodoso East, Papumpare district, Arunachal Pradesh.**

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

- a) The proposed area of 1.05 sq. km agency falls in the survey of India toposheet No. 83E/08 and lies within the Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh.



**Agenda 24.2.8 Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Glauconitic Sandstone in Mudhan-Khatiya Block (129.00 sq. km), Kachchh District, Gujarat.**  
**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) The agency informed that the project was discussed in 22nd TCC-II for final GR submission. They further informed that the final geological report (GR) of the project has been submitted for Peer Review and the comments of reviewer are awaited. The project will be presented after incorporation of comments of Peer Reviewer in the final GR.

**Recommendation TCC-II**

*The committee advised the agency to come for review after incorporation of comments of Peer Reviewer in the final Geological report.*

**Agenda 24.2.9 Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Bauxite and Associated Minerals in Dhrang Block (4.86 sq. km) Kutch District, Gujarat.**  
**[Implementing Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL)]**

- a) MECL informed that the project was recommended in 5th meeting of TCC-II held on 27th, 28th and 29th January 2025 and approved in 40th EC meeting held on 21 February 2025, with an estimated cost of ₹150.99 Lakh (including GST) within the time schedule of 14 months with sanctioned date 5.3.2025.
- b) The project was reviewed in 22nd TCC-II meeting held on 4th & 5th February 2026. During the review the agency informed that the Geological mapping on 1:4000 scale, pitting of 50.08 cu. m out of 100.00 cu. m, and 77 m of drilling quantum (5 BHs) have been completed (out of 450m). Further the agency informed that the results suggest that bauxite mineralization within the Dhrang Block is restricted to hilltop zones and lacks lateral continuity. The agency informed that the Dhrang Block demonstrates localised development of residual bauxite and lateritic profiles over Deccan Trap basalt of the Mata-no-Madh Formation. Five boreholes (totalling 77 m) have established: bauxite (avg. 3.00 m), low-grade bauxite (avg. 3.54 m), and aluminous laterite (avg. 3.83 m). The committee observed good values of TiO<sub>2</sub> and Vanadium in boreholes.
- c) In view of the above, the TCC-II advised the agency to estimate the resources for the mineralized zones. It was also recommended that drilling operations in this area to be closed. The committee subsequently reviewed the revised cost sheet of the project, considering the reduced scope of drilling along with the corresponding decrease in sampling and chemical analysis following the proposed closure of drilling activities.

**Recommendation TCC-II**

*The committee recommended the proposal for approval of PSC for “revised cost of ₹ 57.96 Lakh against approved cost of ₹ 150.99 Lakh, due to closure of further drilling activities”. (Annexure 6)*

**Revised Estimated Cost for Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Bauxite and associated minerals in Dhrang Block, Districts: Kachchh, State: Gujarat**  
**[Block area- 4.86 sq. km; Schedule timeline- 14 months; BH-5 nos; Drilling- 77m]; Review- After 6 months**  
**Agency: Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited**

S. No.	Item of Work	Unit	Rates as per NMET SoC 2020-21		Estimated Cost of the Proposal		Revised Estimated Cost as per SoC 20-21		Remarks
			SoC- Item -Sl No.	Rates as per SoC					
					Qty.	Amount (Rs)	Qty.	Amount (Rs)	
A	GEOLOGICAL WORK (1:4000 scale) & TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY (1:4000 scale)								
i	Charges for one Geologist- Field	day	1.3	11,000	150	16,50,000	80	8,80,000	
ii	Charges for one Geologist per- HQ	day	1.3	9,000	60	5,40,000	50	4,50,000	
iii	2 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	day	5.7	526	300	1,57,800	160	84,160	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher
iv	Sampling party days-1 Samplers Labour charge not included	day	1.5.2	5,100	90	4,59,000	23	1,17,300	
v	4 labours/ party (As per rates of Central Labour Commissioner)	day	5.7	526	360	1,89,360	92	48,392	Amount will be reimbursed as per the notified rates by the Central Labour Commissioner or respective State Govt. whichever is higher
vi	Survey Party Days for topographical contour survey, block boundary and borehole points fixation	day	1.6. 1a	8,300	40	3,32,000	40	3,32,000	
vii	4 labours for surveyor	day	5.7	526	160	84,160	160	84,160	
	Sub Total- A					34,12,320		19,96,012	
B	PITTING AND TRENCHING								
i	Pitting	Cu m	2.1.2	3800	100	3,80,000	51	1,93,800	
ii	Trenching	Cu m	2.1.1	3330	50	1,66,500	-	-	
	Sub Total- B					5,46,500		1,93,800	
C	LABORATORY STUDIES								




<b>1</b>	<b>Chemical Analysis</b>								
<b>i</b>	<b>Primary &amp; Check samples for Bauxite BRS/Chip/Channel/Trench/BH samples)</b>								
	a. Primary Samples for 5 radicals i.e. Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , SiO <sub>2</sub> , Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , TiO <sub>2</sub> & LOI	Nos	4.1.15a	4,200	340	14,28,000	94	3,94,800	BH-54, BRS-20, Pit/Trench-20
	b. For each additional trace elements viz. V, Sc & Ga	Nos	4.1.15b	1,263	300	3,78,900	54	68,202	From BH primary samples
	c. External (10%) Check samples for 5 radicals i.e. Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , SiO <sub>2</sub> , Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , TiO <sub>2</sub> & LOI	Nos	4.1.15a	4,200	34	1,42,800	9	37,800	
	d. External (10%) Check samples for each additional trace elements viz. V, Sc & Ga	Nos	4.1.15b	1,263	30	37,890	5	6,315	
<b>2</b>	<b>Physical, Petrological, Mineralogical Studies</b>								
i	Preparation of thin section	Nos	4.3.1	2,353	10	23,530	6	14,118	
ii	Complete petrographic study report	Nos	4.3.4	4,232	10	42,320	6	25,392	
iii	Preparation of polished section	Nos	4.3.2	1,549	10	15,490	4	6,196	
iv	Complete mineragraphic study report	Nos	4.3.4	4,232	10	42,320	4	16,928	
v	Digital Photographs	Nos	4.3.7	280	10	2,800	8	2,240	
vi	X-RD studies for mineral identification	Nos	4.5.1	4,000	10	40,000	5	20,000	
vii	ICP-AES/ICPMS (sequential technique) for 34 elements i.e. 16 other elements viz. Li, Ga, In, Be, Ge, Mo, Ni, Cr, Ta, W, Ba, Co, Rb, Sr, Zr, Nb ; 16 REE viz. La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu, Sc, Y; 02 Actinides viz. U, Th.	Nos	4.1.14	7,731	15	1,15,965	15	1,15,965	
viii	Bulk density determination	Nos	4.10	3540	10	35,400	2	7,080	
ix	Combined determination of Trihydrate Alumina (THA-140°C), Monohydrate Alumina (MHA-240°C) & Reactive Silica	Nos	4.1.17a	6700	10	67,000	5	33,500	




	<b>Sub Total- C</b>					<b>23,72,415</b>		<b>7,48,536</b>	
<b>D</b>	<b>DRILLING</b>								
i	Drilling upto 300m (Soft Rock) (1 rigs)	m	2.2.1.1b	7,168	450	32,25,600	77	5,51,936	In first phase out of 6 BHs, completed 5 BHs
ii	Land / Crop Compensation	per BH	5.6	20,000	15	3,00,000	5	1,00,000	
iii	Construction of concrete Pillar (12"x12"x30")	per borehole	2.2.7a	2,000	15	30,000	5	10,000	Only 5 BH were drilled
iv	Transportation of Drill Rig & Truck associated per drill	Km	2.2.8	36	4,648	1,67,328	4,648	1,67,328	
v	Monthly Accomodation Charges for drilling Camp (up to 2 Rigs)	month	2.2.9	50,000	3	1,50,000	2	1,00,000	
vi	Drilling Camp Setting Cost	Nos	2.2.9a	2,50,000	2	5,00,000	1	2,50,000	
vii	Drilling Camp Winding up Cost	Nos	2.2.9b	2,50,000	2	5,00,000	1	2,50,000	
viii	Approach Road Making	Km	2.2.10a	22,020	2	44,040	1	22,020	
ix	Bore Hole Fixation and determination of co-ordinates & Reduced Level of the boreholes by DGPS	Nos	1.6.2	19,200	19	3,64,800	9	1,72,800	5 Boreholes+ 4 Block Boundary points
x	Drill core preservation: One complete borehole plus mineralised cores of all the remaining Bhs	m	5.3	1,590	200	3,18,000	-	-	
	<b>Sub Total- D</b>					<b>55,99,768</b>		<b>16,24,084</b>	
<b>E</b>	<b>Total A to D</b>					<b>1,19,31,003</b>		<b>45,62,432</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>Geological Report Preparation</b>		<b>5.2</b>	For the projects having cost exceeding Rs. 50 lakhs but less than Rs.150 lakhs - A minimum of Rs. 2.5 lakhs or 5% of the value of work whichever is more		<b>5,96,550</b>	For the projects having cost less than Rs. 50 lakhs - A minimum of Rs. 1.5 lakhs or 5% of the value of work whichever is more	<b>2,28,122</b>	Reimbursement will be made after submission of the final Geological Report in Hard Copies and the soft copy to NMET.

G	Peer review Charges		As per EC decision			30,000		30,000	
H	Preparation of Exploration Proposal	5 Hard copies with a soft copy	5.1	2% of the Cost or Rs. 5.0 Lakhs whichever is lower		2,38,620		91,249	
I	Total Estimated Cost without GST					1,27,96,173		49,11,802	
J	Provision for GST (18% of I)					23,03,311.18		8,84,124.40	GST will be reimbursed as per actual and as per notified prescribed rate
K	Total Estimated Cost with GST (Rupees)					1,50,99,484.39		5,795,926.64	
	or Say Rs. In Lakhs					150.99		57.96	
Note:									
1	Strict adherence to the Ministry of Finance's and GFR guidelines is mandatory. Every transaction must adhere to GFR rule 21.								
2	In case of delay/non- performance, the appropriate action will be taken by competent authority against delinquent agency as per prevailing govt. of India rules/guidelines on procurement.								
3	If any part of the project is outsourced, the amount will be reimbursed as per the Paragraph 3 of NMET SoC and Item no. 6 of NMET SoC. In								
4	Necessary efforts should be made to minimize any adverse impact on the environment during exploration activities.								
5	Any item of work not mentioned above shall be added as per SoC.								
6	All the Geological Reports and data are to be uploaded on NGDR as per MERT template by the agency.								


