

Government of India
Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust
Sanction Order

F.No.23/425/2024-NMET/ 532

New Delhi, 28th February, 2024

Subject: Approval of mineral exploration project and release of 1st Advance of Grant-in-Aid (General) Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Manganese and Graphite in Bharatbahal Block (2.00 Sq. Km.) District- Balangir, Odisha.

On the recommendation of Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) of NMET, the Executive Committee (EC) in its 33rd EC meeting held on 19th February 2024 has approved mineral exploration project to be executed by MECL. The details of the block are given below:

S. No.	Project/Block Name	Commodity	Stage	Duration (Months)	Approved Cost (Including GST).
1	Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Manganese and Graphite in Bharatbahal Block (2.00 Sq. Km.) District- Balangir, Odisha.	Manganese & Graphite	G3	8 (up to 27.10.2024)	₹1,37,77,521

2. The mineral exploration project will be funded by NMET as per the cost recommended by the TCC and approved by the EC. The Implementing Agency shall complete the same as per the approved cost estimates and time schedule, enclosed in **Annexure**, as summarized below:-

- **Field Mobilization** : 1st month (up to 27.03.2024).
- **Exploration** : 2nd to 7th month (up to 27.09.2024).
 - i. Geological Mapping & Sampling : 2nd to 6th month (up to 27.08.2024).
 - ii. Geophysical survey : 2nd to 6th month (up to 27.08.2024).
 - iii. Pitting/Trenching & Drilling : 2nd month to 7th month (up to 27.09.2024).
- **Laboratory Studies** : 3rd month to 8th month (up to 27.10.2024).
- **Report Writing with Peer Review: and submission to NMET** : 7th month to 8th month (up to 27.10.2024).

3. The Implementing Agency shall submit progress on monthly basis to NMET Secretariat. The TCC, NMET shall review the progress of project and provide update to the Executive Committee.

4. Sanction is also hereby conveyed for release of the 1st installment of 40% of the approved procurement project cost i.e ₹ 55,11,008/- (**₹Fifty five lakh eleven thousand eight only**) as an advance in terms of conditions stipulated in this office letter no. 6/9/2015-NMET/340 dated 09th February, 2023 regarding "Release of funds to State Government for Procurement of Machinery and equipment for mineral exploration".

5. The expenditure will be debited to '2853' Non-Ferrous Mining and Metallurgical Industries (Major Head) 02-Regulation and Development of Mines (Sub-Major head) 102-Mineral Exploration

(Minor Head) 05-National Mineral Exploration Trust Fund Activities (Sub-Head) 00- National Mineral Exploration Trust Fund Activities (Detailed-Head) 05.00. 31-Grant-in-aid (General) under Demand No. 69, Ministry of Mines during the financial year 2023-24.

6. Certified that the pattern of assistance, under which the Grants-in-Aid (General) has been sanctioned, has the prior approval of Ministry of Finance.

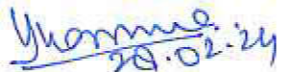
7. MECL is a registered agency on EAT module of PFMS. In terms of **Rule 230, 235, 236 and 238 of GFR**, MECL should maintain subsidiary accounts of the Government Grants and furnish the same to the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry. The account shall be open to inspection by the Sanctioning Authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and internal audit by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry of Mines, whenever the Organization is called upon to do so.

8. The exploration agency has to furnish the utilization certificate in respect of amount disbursed as Grant-in-aid for the project on utilization of disbursed amount or after completion of one year from the date of disbursement of advance, whichever is earlier. The next installment of advance will be released after submission of utilization certificate and progress report in respect of the 1st installment.

9. Shri Arun Kumar Chail, Section Officer in the Ministry will be the Drawing and Disbursing Officer for this purpose. It is requested that the payment of ₹ 55,11,008/- (**₹Fifty five lakh eleven thousand eight only**) may kindly be made to the Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Ltd, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur – 440006 through RTGS in State Bank of India, Industrial Finance Branch, Nagpur (IFSC Code – SBIN0000432, Account No. 10374783387)

10. This has concurrence of JS &FA, Mines vide Note# 10 dated 27.02.2024 (E file No. 3074871).

Yours faithfully,


(Vivek Kumar Sharma)
Director &HoD, NMET

Copy for information and further necessary action:

1. The Chairman & Managing Director, Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Ltd. (MECL), Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Bhawan, Seminary Hills, Nagpur – 440006.
2. Dr. S. Ravi, Dy. Director General and Chairman ,TCC-NMET, Geological Survey of India, SU: Karnataka & Goa, Bangalore-560078.
3. I.F. Division, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Executive Committee (EC) Meeting file (F.No.6/2/2015-NMET)
5. Grant-in aid Sanction order file.