

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust
Minutes of the 70th Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC-I) meeting held on
24th and 25th October, 2024 through video conferencing

The 70th meeting of the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-I (TCC-I) of the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) was held via video conferencing under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Ravi, Deputy Director General (DDG), Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Chairman, TCC, NMET, on 24th and 25th October 2024.

Members of TCC-I, NMET and representatives from DGM, Chhattisgarh, DMG Karnataka, DMG Goa, DMG, Odisha, CSIR-IMMT, MECL, KIOCL, Bhushilp Mine and Minerals, OMC, , Mining Tech Consultancy Services Ltd, DMG Maharashtra, , Gemcokati, , GeoMarine, Indian Mine Planner and Consultant, Geo Technical Mining Solutions, Critical Mineral Trackers, , Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services private Limited, Geo Exploration and Mining Solution, Tata Steel Ltd, Maheshwari Mining Pvt Ltd and PRB Infra have attended the meeting through their respective VC modes. The list of participants is enclosed in Annexure-1.

Shri C. Parthasarathi, Director, GSI and Member Secretary, TCC-I, NMET, welcomed Dr. S. Ravi, DDG, GSI and Chairman, TCC, NMET, Members of the TCC and participants representing various Notified Exploration Agencies (NEAs) and Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs).

Dr. S. Ravi, Chairman of TCC-I, NMET, extended a warm welcome all TCC members and participants representing various NEAs and NPEAs. In his opening remarks, he suggested that all NEAs and NPEAs should complete the G4 items within 10 months as instructed by Ministry of mines and also focus more on critical and strategic commodities instead of bulk minerals like limestone, dolomite, iron ore etc.

Subsequently, the proceedings of meeting were initiated as per circulated agenda

Agenda 70.1: Technical evaluation of new project proposals

Agenda 70.1.1. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Chromite around Umundira & Kateni areas, Dhenkanal and Jajpur Districts, Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: DMG, Odisha]

- a. The study area is NW extension of Sukinda ultramafic complex of Odisha, Jajpur and forms a part of Iron Ore Supergroup.
- b. During the field season of 1999-2001, petrographic study conducted by DoMG, Odisha identified disseminations and stringers of chromite within the ultramafic rocks of the Umundira Valley.
- c. The findings reported Cr₂O₃ content ranging from trace amounts up to 8.21% in in-situ soil and trace to 15.87% in laterite, suggesting a promising potential for further exploration at G3 level.


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Agenda 70.2.7. Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.

[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a) MECL informed that the project was approved in the 33rd EC Meeting held on 23rd February, 2024. The Office Memorandum was issued on 1st March, 2024 with timeline of 12 months and approved cost was INR 3244.87 Lakh.
- b) The committee was informed that MECL floated global tender for Hyperspectral Core scanner with XRF and WD-XRF and GeM tender floated for Gamma Ray Spectrometer. The permission for Global Tender of Hyperspectral Core Scanner with LIBS from MoM, GoI has been received and process to float global tender is in progress.
- c) Based on further market survey and tendering process, MECL arrived at an estimated cost of Rs. 47.90 cr. of procurement of instruments for capacity augmentation. The tender cost estimated by MECL as per specification drawn is Rs. 55.89 cr. including GST and 3 years of CAMC.
- d) MECL informed that the final cost of instruments will be determined upon the completion of each individual tender. Hence, the committee requested to consider revised estimated cost of Rs. 55.89 cr. including GST and 3 years of CAMC/extended warranty and accord approval for the ratification of the previously approved estimated cost of Rs. 47.90 cr. including GST and 3 years AMC
- e) After , due deliberation the committee directed MECL to present the revised proposal with comparative table indicating the deviations from initial proposal submitted to and approved by NMET in detail in the next TCC meeting

Recommendation of TCC:

The Committee deferred the revision of cost of procurement of instruments for capacity augmentation until submission of requisite information by MECL in next TCC meeting.

Purchase order will have to issued only after the approval of EC.

Agenda 70.2.8. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Gold in Dimirimunda Block (Area-5.0 Sq. Km) in Keonjhar district of Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: OMC]

- a) OMC informed that the project was approved in the 31st EC Meeting held on 12th September, 2023. The sanction order was issued on 05th October, 2023 with timeline of 12 months and approved cost was INR 2,01,98,905/-.
- b) OMC informed geological mapping has been completed in the area. Through mapping and sampling, it was noted that quartz veins within chlorite schist are inconsistent and are localised near Shear zones/Fault planes traversing. Out of numerous samples, only 1 sample indicates ppb level Au. Minor gold value also detected in thin chrome rich cherty veins within chlorite schist, however multiple samples from these veins show mineralization of gold but inconsistently.
- c) OMC apprised that the drone magnetic survey was performed over an area 44.5 km². The western margin of the Dimirimunda block was surveyed in detail at 50 m line spacing to bring out finer details of the Malyagiri Shear zone. The samples in the zone show consistency in Ni-Co-Cr-Cu-Pb-Zn along with Vanadium values.
- d) OMC informed that there is a delay in completion of project due to unavailability of vendors for conducting IP survey through the tendering route .Further, delay of

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geological mapping was caused due to very dense forest cover and incessant monsoon season (July-October). In view of above, OMC requested 08 months timeline extension for completion of the project.

- e) The committee opined that the project may be reviewed again after completion of geophysical survey in the 72nd TCC meeting to be held in December 2024. In case, gold values are still not found encouraging, the project may be prematurely concluded after submission of justification from OMC. Meanwhile, the committee agreed for time extension upto 31st December 2024. OMC is also advised to submit proper note and explanation for delay to NMET secretariat.

Recommendation of TCC:

The Committee recommended for review of project in the 72nd TCC meeting and approved time extension upto 31st December 2024.

Agenda 70.2.9. Preliminary Exploration (G-3) for Gold in Salaikana Block (Area-3.38 Sq. Km) in Keonjhar district of Odisha.

[Implementing Agency: OMC]

- a) OMC informed that the project was approved in the 31st EC Meeting held on 12th September, 2023. The sanction order was issued on 05th October, 2023 with timeline of 12 months and approved cost was INR 2,01,98,905/-.
- b) OMC reported that geological mapping has been completed in the block. During sampling, 37 additional BRS samples were analysed. OMC informed that mapping and sample analysis did not provide encouraging gold value.
- c) In view of the above, the committee advised to conclude the project and submit the GR by 04th January 2025. The committee approved 37 additional samples. Also suggested OMC to submit the report under suitable category of UNFC.

Recommendation of TCC:

The Committee recommended concluding the project and approved additional 37 samples and 3 months time extension upto 4th January 2025 for GR submission.


Agenda 70.2.10. Financial Assistance from NMET funds to procure Machinery Laboratory Equipment/instruments etc. aimed at enhancing the exploration activities.

[Implementing Agency: DGM Maharashtra]

- a) DGM, Maharashtra informed that the project was approved in the 27th EC Meeting held on 10th January, 2023. The sanction order was issued on 24th March, 2023 with timeline of 12 months and approved cost was INR 4,42,61,500/-.
- b) DGM, Maharashtra informed that after tendering and negotiating with the L1 bidder the total cost of the instruments were ₹5,43,74,815/- which is 1,01,13,315/- more than the approved total amount by NMET. Approval was sought from the committee for the additional amount.
- c) The TCC opined that the additional cost is very high, almost 22 % of the approved cost. The committee advised DGM, Maharashtra to submit the details of L1 along with comparative statement of cost for each of the equipment to NMET for consideration of EC.

Recommendation of TCC:

The Committee recommended DMG, Maharashtra to submit details of the additional cost for each of the equipment for consideration of EC.


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**List of participants attended 70th Technical-cum-cost Committee (TCC) meeting of
NMET held on 24th and 25th October, 2024 through videoconferencing**

S. No.	Name/ Designation	Email ID	Contact No	Organization
1.	Dr. S. Ravi, Dy. Director General, SU: Karnataka & Goa, GSI Bangalore	s.ravi1@gsi.gov.in	9441138834	Chairman, TCC
2.	Shri. I.R. Kirmani, ADG (Retd.), GSI	irkirmani@yahoo.com	9414014723	Member TCC
3.	Shri. Hemraj Suryavanshi, Addl. Director General (Retd.), GSI	hemraj.nmet@gmail.com	9425603674 7477042176	Member TCC
4.	Shri. K. Koteswara Rao, Dy.D.G. (Retd.) GSI.	kkrao1957@gmail.com	9000117969	Member TCC
5.	Dr. S. K. Kulshrestha, DDG-RMH-III, NER, GSI, Shillong	s.kulshrestha@gsi.gov.in	9413330658	Member TCC
6.	Dr.E.V.S.S.K. Babu, Scientist (G), NGRI.	evsskbabu@ngri.res.in	9441535852	Member TCC
7.	Shri. S.K. Adhikari, Chief Mining Geologist, IBM, Nagpur.	skadhikari@ibm.gov.in	7588690545	Member TCC
8.	Shri. P.K. Maharana, DGM (Finance), NALCO, Bhubaneswar	pmaharana@rediffmail.com	8500669500	Member TCC
9.	Shri. Ravi Kumar Gupta General Manager (Finance) HCL, Kolkata	ravi_g@hindustancopper.com	9433274328	Member TCC
10.	Smt. Vandana, Cost Accounts Officer, RSAS, Bangalore, GSI.	vandana@gsi.in	8660939235	Member TCC
11.	Shri. C. Parthasarathi, Director, GSI & Member Secretary, TCC- NMET, GSI, Bengaluru	c.parthasarathi@gsi.gov.in	9483186932	Member Secretary
12.	Shri. Sanjay S. Joshi, Joint Director	director@mahadgm.gov.in	9822189623	DGM Maharashtra
13.	Shri S.K Kankane, Joint Director,	dgm.cg@gov.in	9826753151	DGM Chhattisgarh
14.	Shri Harish H.P. Deputy Director (Plan)	ddpmdmg1@gmail.com	9611951313	DMG, Karnataka
15.	Md. Q. Jamal Khan, Joint Director Geology	qjamalkhan@gmail.com	9861067455	DMG Odisha
16.	Shri. Jugal Kishore Duruka, Geologist	masterjugal@gmail.com	9178503203	DMG Odisha
17.	Shri Abhir Hede, Dy Director	<u>dir-mine.goa@nic.</u>	9764214183	DMG Goa

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25.	Md Intazar Alam, Asst. Manager (Geology)	Intazar.geol1189@gmail.com	9483914347	MECL
26.	Sri Shiva Kumar M, AGM(ME)	bmed@kioclltd.in	9148743807	KIOCL Ltd., Bangalore
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31.	Sri Dnyaneshwar Gaonkar, DM(Geo),	bmed@kioclltd.in	9945258578	KIOCL Ltd., Bangalore
32.	Dr. Raghwendra Pratap, Singh Senior Manager (geology)	singh.rp@coalindia.in	9431358716	CMPDI
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37.	Shri. P.Praveenkumar Director	praveen@geomarinesolution.in	8277363919	NPEA- GMSPL
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