

Ministry of Mines
National Mineral Exploration Trust
Minutes of the 73rd Technical-cum-Cost Committee-1 (TCC-1) meeting held on
30th and 31st January, 2025 through video conferencing

The 73rd meeting of the Technical-cum-Cost Committee-I (TCC-1) 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 Training Institute (GSITI) and Chairman, TCC-1, NMET, on 30th and 31st January, 2025.

Members of TCC-1, NMET and representatives from DGM, Chhattisgarh, DMG, Karnataka, DGM Maharashtra, CGM Tamil Nadu, MECL, CMPDI, OMC Ltd., KIOCL Limited, Maheshwari Mining Pvt Ltd, Telangana Mineral Development Corporation Limited Agency, Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions, Gemcokati Exploration Pvt Ltd, Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Geo Technical Mining Solutions, Critical Mineral Trackers, APC Drilling & Construction Pvt. Ltd, Kartikay Exploration and Mining Services Pvt. Ltd, and PRB Infraprojects Pvt Ltd. 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-1, NMET, welcomed Dr. S. Ravi, DDG, GSI and Chairman, TCC-1, NMET, Members of the TCC-1 and participants representing various Notified Exploration Agencies (NEAs) and Notified Private Exploration Agencies (NPEAs).

Dr. S. Ravi, Chairman of TCC-1, NMET, extended a warm welcome to all members of TCC-1 and participants representing various NEAs and NPEAs and conducted the proceedings as per circulated agenda.

Agenda 73.1: Technical evaluation of new project proposals

Agenda.73.1.1. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Dhunki-Chilai Block (5.58 Sq.Km Area) District- Yavatmal, Maharashtra.
[Implementing Agency: MECL]

- a) This block is a lapsed lease area and falls under 10(A) 2(B) case. The MECL claimed that DGM Maharashtra has requested MECL to upgrade the block vide letter no. Tech/1848/2023/260, dated 23/01/2024 for further exploration.
- b) The proposed area belongs to Penganga Beds or Penganga Series and falls in Survey of India toposheet no. 55I/13.
- c) The proposed exploration block lies in the east of M/s Bajrang Sales Pvt. Ltd prospected Hiwardhara lease area which shows 30.50% to 51% Cao, 2% to 19.30% MgO and 2.8% to 8% SiO₂.
- d) MECL conducted preliminary field visit in and around the Hiradhwara, Ganeshpura, Dhunki and Chilai area and collected samples which yielded 18.99% to 50.52% Cao, 1.36% to 8.22% MgO and 4.85% to 34.53% SiO₂.
- e) Based on this, MECL proposed G3 stage item in Dhunki-Chilai Block.
- f) The District Mining Officer (DMO), DMG, Maharashtra conveyed that boundaries of the block need to be modified according to the existing mining leases. It was

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- c) The TCC-1 advised to present the integrated map, details of sampling & analytical results in next TCC-1 meeting.

Recommendation of TCC-1

The TCC-1 recommended to present the integrated map, details of sampling & analytical results in next TCC-1 meeting.

Agenda 73.2.6. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Limestone in Sawalhira (East) Block, District Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.]

- a) Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 35th EC Meeting held on 16th May, 2024. The sanction order was issued on 10th June, 2024 with timeline of 10 months (up to 09.04.2025) and approved cost was INR 86,70,545/-.
- b) Gemcokati presented the progress of the project and informed that 3 out of 5 BHs were pending due to non- receipt of forest permission. Gemcokati informed that the agency is regularly pursuing with concerned offices for forest permission. The analytical results are yet to be received. Timeline for completion of the project exists upto 9th April, 2025.

Recommendation of TCC-1

The TCC-1 noted the progress of the project and advised Gemcokati to expedite the work.

Agenda 73.2.7. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Limestone in Rupapeth Block, District Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd.]

- a) Gemcokati Exploration Pvt. Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 35th EC Meeting held on 16th May, 2024. The sanction order was issued on 10th June, 2024 with timeline of 10 months (up to 09.04.2025) and approved cost was INR 95,99,632/-.
- c) Gemcokati presented the progress of the project and informed that drilling in all 5 BHs have been completed and analytical results are awaited. Timeline for completion of the project exists upto 9th April, 2025.

Recommendation of TCC-1

The TCC-1 noted the progress of the project and advised Gemcokati to present the integrated geological map in next review.

Agenda 73.2.8. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Coal in West of Borda and Ghonsa-Parsoda block, Wardha Valley Coalfield, District: Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: CMPDI]

- a) CMPDI informed that the project was approved in the 24th EC Meeting held on 18th May, 2022. The sanction order was issued on 01st June, 2022 with timeline of 18 months and approved cost was INR 12,01,56,952/-.
- b) CMPDI informed that the project was reviewed in 69th TCC-1 of NMET. Drilling has been completed in 11 BHs. In one of the BHs (CMWWB11), drilling was suspended

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due to this motur formation. Out of the approved 9650m drilling, 9300.20 m has been completed.

- c) CMPDI sought approval of closure of borehole no. CMWWB11 at 630m depth and preparation of GR.
- d) The committee noted progress and agreed GR preparation. CMPDI was asked to submit the revised cost sheet during the final review submission of GR by 31.03.2025

Recommendation of TCC-1

The TCC-1 recommended closure of borehole no. CMWWB-11 at 630m depth and submission of GR by 31st March 2025. CMPDI was directed to submit the with revised cost sheet to NMET for approval.

Agenda 73.2.9. Preliminary exploration (G3) for Vanadium, Titanium and associated minerals in beach and dune sands of Talashil block, District Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.

[Implementing Agency: Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd.]

- a) Geo Marine Solutions Pvt. Ltd. informed that the project was approved in the 34th EC Meeting held on 13th March, 2024. The sanction order was issued on 25th April, 2024 with timeline of 10 months (up to 11.01.2025) and approved cost was INR 1,36,12,863/-.
- b) Geomarine requested time extension upto 28th February 2025 for final review and GR submission.
- c) The committee decided to review the project after receipt of peer reviewer's comments and agreed for time extension upto 28th February 2025.

Recommendation of TCC-1

The TCC-1 approved time extension upto 28th February 2025.

Agenda 73.2.10. Preliminary Exploration (G3) for Graphite in Arasanur East block, District Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu.

[Implementing Agency: KIOCL]

- a) KIOCL informed that the project was approved in the 35th EC Meeting held on 16th May, 2024. The sanction order was issued on 10th June, 2024 with timeline of 12 months (up to 09.06.2025) and approved cost was INR 3,46,19,535/-.
- b) KIOCL informed that 1.93 sq. km area was mapped on 1:2000 scale. Graphite mineralised zone occur as continuous body trending ENE-WSW steeps south easterly dip of 70. Out of 10 BRS collected from central Graphite Gneiss band 6 samples indicates FC > IBM TV value of 10%. Central band indicates average FC % of 9.476.
- c) Further, 13 nos (150 cum) of trenches excavated at an interval of 100m with collection of 129 nos of trench samples. Trench samples revealed FC% values ranging from 4.0% to 23.04.
- d) Geophysical work (IP & resistivity) carried out with 100m grid spacing & Station interval 20m with no anomalies.
- e) In view of above, KIOCL proposed five boreholes with cumulative 590m are planned. KIOCL also sought approval for additional trenching works of 100 cum with an estimated cost of Rs. 4.48 lakhs inclusive of GST.