

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

F.No.23/501/2024-NMET/ 446

New Delhi, 23rd Oct, 2024

Subject: Approval of mineral exploration project and release of 1st Advance of Grant-in-Aid (General) for the project "Preliminary Exploration (G-3 Level) for Limestone in Jaharitola (3.34 sq. km) and Mundatola (4.34 sq.km) Blocks, Sundargarh District, Odisha."

Agency:- MECL

On the recommendation of Technical-cum-Cost Committee (TCC) of NMET, the Executive Committee (EC) in its 37th meeting held on 23th Sep, 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 Level) for Limestone in Jaharitola (3.34 sq. km) and Mundatola (4.34 sq.km) Blocks, Sundargarh District, Odisha.	Limestone	G-3	12 Months (up to 22.10.2025)	₹2,85,75,457/-

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 22.11.2024).
- **Exploration** : 2nd to 08th month (up to 22.06.2025).
(Sampling, Survey, Pitting/Trenching & Drilling, Camp winding)
- **Laboratory Studies** : 3rd month to 10th month (up to 22.08.2025)
- **Report Writing with Peer Review and submission to NMET** : 10th month to 12th month (up to 22.10.2025)

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 instalment of 40% of the estimated project cost i.e. ₹ 1,14,30,183/- (₹ One crore fourteen lakh thirty thousand one hundred eighty three only) as an advance in terms of conditions stipulated in this office letter no. 42/1/2017-NMET/176 dated 16th December 2021 and letter no. 42/1/2017-NMET/217 dated 19th January 2022 regarding "Release of funds to State Government / NEAs 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 2024-25.

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 ₹ 1,14,30,183/- (**₹ One crore fourteen lakh thirty thousand one hundred eighty three 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# 12 dated 22.10.2024 (E file No 3076330).

Yours faithfully,



(Geetika Sharma)
Deputy Secretary & HoD, NMET

To

**The Pay & Accounts Officer,
Pay & Accounts Office,
Ministry of Mines, New Delhi**

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.