

mineral with lease area less than 05 ha would be treated as category 'B' as defined in the EIA Notification, 2006 and will be considered by the respective SEIAAs.

A number of applications for obtaining environmental clearance of minor minerals with lease area less than 05 ha have been forwarded to SEAC, Chhattisgarh, which are being dealt with as per notification issued by Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India vide S.O. 1533 (E), dated 14 September, 2006 (as amended up-to date) and Office Memorandum no. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dated 18/05/2012. The applications for obtaining environmental clearance of minor / major minerals with lease area less than 05 ha are of following nature:-

- (1) New applications, who have not obtained lease from Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.
- (2) Applications whose mining lease has already lapsed.
- (3) Applications whose mining lease is going to lapse in near future.

SEAC, Chhattisgarh has considered these proposals in previous meetings and directed the project proponents of minor minerals with lease area less than 05 ha to submit the mining plan approved by competent authority and other information / documents. No project proponent has submitted the mining plan approved by competent authority till date. Some project proponents informed that mining plan for minor minerals with lease area less than 05 ha is not being approved by Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh and requested to issue environmental clearance.

During discussion, Dr. Manoj Pradhan, Member, SEAC informed that there are no provisions in the prevailing rules of Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh for preparation and approval of mining plan for minor minerals.

Shri Manoj Pradhan, Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh (Expert Mining Sector) presented the methodology being adopted in other states like Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra etc. for appraisal of minor minerals mining projects having less than 05 ha lease area. Discussions were carried out at length and SEIAA, Chhattisgarh & SEAC, Chhattisgarh were of opinion that mining of minor minerals directly affects the infrastructural development and rural economy of the State.

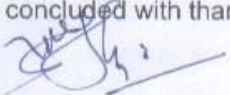
In view of the above, following were unanimously decided:-


1. Applications for obtaining environmental clearance for minor / major minerals with lease area less than 05 ha or above shall be submitted in Form-I as per EIA Notification, 2006.
2. Applications for obtaining environmental clearance for minor / major minerals with lease area less than 05 ha or above shall submit Pre-feasibility Report as per EIA Notification, 2006.
3. In case of minor mineral, the project proponent shall be asked to submit Environment Management Scheme approved by District Collector/proposed Environment Management Scheme as per the provisions of the Chhattisgarh Minor Mineral Rules, 1996. In case of proposed Environment Scheme the project proponent will have to submit the approved scheme within 150 days of lease agreement.
4. Evaluation report for obtaining environmental clearance for mining of minerals of category "B1" considered by SEAC, Chhattisgarh shall be submitted by project proponent.
5. Copy of land acquisition / ownership documents shall be submitted by project proponent.

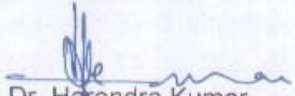
6. For existing mines, the previous notification / mining lease issued by Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh / District Collector shall be submitted by project proponent.
7. "NOC" from concerned Gram Panchayat (s) shall be submitted by project proponent.
8. "NOC / Forest Clearance" from Forest Department, Government of Chhattisgarh shall be submitted by project proponent; if, lease area falls within forest land or adjoining the forest land. SEAC, Chhattisgarh may also ask from project proponent to submit NOC from Forest Department, Government of Chhattisgarh / other Department; if, deemed necessary on case to case basis.
9. A Sub-Committee of SEAC, Chhattisgarh may visit the site; if, deemed necessary on case to case basis.
10. Toposheet / Google Image showing the project lease area including major topographical features such as land use, drainage, location of habitats, major construction including railways, highways, pipelines, major industries / mines, stone crushers and other polluting sources etc. shall be submitted. Distance of above features from mine site shall be clearly given.
11. Photographs of the site from at-least four directions shall be submitted.
12. All existing / proposed / abandoned mines and stone crushers / cutting & polishing units / brick kilns location and distance within 05 km radius from mine site clearly marked on map shall be submitted. This information shall be authenticated by the Mining Department.
13. As per recommendation of Task Group of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India hydrological study should be asked from project proponent; if, deemed necessary on case to case basis (such as, if depth of mining is beyond ground water table of that area etc.).
14. In case of river bed sand mining, project proponent shall be asked to submit the notified area / stretch for river bed sand mining notified by District Collector / Mining Department along with the co-ordinates of the area / stretch for river bed sand mine (notified area and proposed lease area for river bed sand mining). The guidelines of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh (if any) shall be followed in this regard.
15. Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh has not notified rules for cluster mining; hence, the application shall be appraised on the merits of particular case, on case to case basis.
16. The rules / notification / order of Mining Department, Government of Chhattisgarh for creating separate corpus fund for rehabilitation shall be followed as and when notified.
17. The category of the projects (B-1/ B -2) shall be decided by the SEAC on case to case basis.
18. The Environmental Clearance shall be granted subject to fulfillment of the following terms and conditions:-
 - (a) Project proponent shall obtain all necessary statutory clearances/licenses from the concerned Central/State Government Departments, Boards, Bodies and Corporations etc. before start of any mining operation. Project proponent shall follow revised Mineral Concession Rules as and when notified by the State Government as per direction issued in I.A. no. 12-13 of 2011 in SLP (C) no. 19628-


components) require environmental clearance or not? SEIAA, Chhattisgarh in the 19th meeting held on 05/11/2011 unanimously decided to accept the recommendation of SEAC, Chhattisgarh to seek clarification from Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India in this regard. Accordingly, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh sought clarification from Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India vide letter dated 14/12/2011. SEIAA, Chhattisgarh has not received clarification in this regard. Matter was discussed at length. After deliberation, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh and SEAC, Chhattisgarh unanimously decided that such proposals should be appraised by SEAC, Chhattisgarh on merit basis and recommendation should be forwarded to SEIAA, Chhattisgarh on case to case basis.

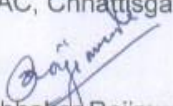
Meeting concluded with thanks.


Shri N.S. Bhadauria,
Chairman, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh

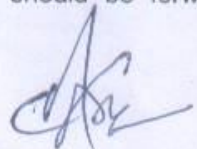

Shri P.V. Narsinga Rao,
Member Secretary, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh

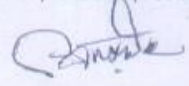

Dr. Harendra Kumar
Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh

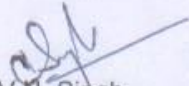

Shri V.K. Singh,
Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh

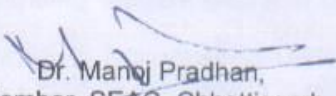

Shri Anant Prabhakar Rajimwale,
Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh

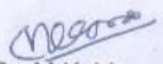

Shri Alex Paul Mehon, Secretary,
SEAC, Chhattisgarh


Dr. M.L. Nayak,
Member, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh


Shri Ashok Masih,
Chairman, SEAC, Chhattisgarh


Shri V.N. Singh,
Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh


Dr. Manoj Pradhan,
Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh


Dr. M.K. Verma,
Member, SEAC, Chhattisgarh