



सत्यमेव जयते

File No.: IA-J-11015/29/2023-IA-II(NCM)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
IA Division



Dated 26/02/2026



To,

Shri Chirag A Shah
M/s GMDC LAKHPAT & PUNHARAJPUR LIGNITE BLOCK
Khanij Bhavan, 132 ft. Ring Road, Near University Ground, Vastrapur Ahmedabad, AHMADABAD,
GUJARAT, Near University Ground, 380052
gmdclakhpat@gmail.com

Subject: Lakhpat Punrajpur Lignite (3.0 MTPA) and Limestone (29.81 MTPA) over a mine lease area of 2959.6715 Ha by M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited, located at Villages: Kaner, Punjarpar and Lakhpat; **District: Kutch; State: Gujarat - Environment Clearance – reg.**

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application submitted to MoEF&CC vide proposal number IA/GJ/CMIN/550329/2025 dated 09.09.2025 [Lignite Mining] and IA/GJ/MIN/545165/2025 dated 30/09/2025 [Limestone mining] seeking for grant of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) for the project mentioned above under the provisions of the EIA Notification 2006-and as amended thereof.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC25A0000GJ5830480N
(ii) File No.	IA-J-11015/29/2023-IA-II(NCM)
(iii) Clearance Type	Fresh EC
(iv) Category	A
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals
(vi) Sector	Coal and Non-Coal Mining
(vii) Name of Project	Lakhpat & Punharajpur Lignite Block
(viii) Location of Project (District, State)	KACHCHH, GUJARAT
(ix) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(x) Applicability of General Conditions	No

3. In view of the particulars given in the Para 1 above, the project proposal interalia including Form-2(Part A, B and C)/ EIA & EMP Reports were submitted to the MoEF&CC for an appraisal by the EAC under the provisions of EIA notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments.
4. The above-mentioned proposal has been considered by EAC - Coal in its 32nd meeting held on 24-25th September, 2025 and EAC - Non coal in the 52nd EAC meeting held on 22/10/2025. The minutes of the meeting and all the project documents are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed from the PARIVESH portal by scanning the QR Code above.
5. The EAC - Coal in its 32nd meeting held on 24-25th September, 2025 and EAC - Non-coal in its 52nd EAC meeting held on 22.10.2025, based on information submitted viz: Form 1 (Part A, B and C), EIA/EMP report etc. and clarifications provided by the project proponent and after detailed deliberations on all technical aspects and public hearing issues and compliance thereto furnished by the Project Proponent, recommended the proposal for Environmental Clearance for mining of Lignite and Limestone in Lakhat & Punharajpur Lignite Block and Limestone mine for production capacity of 3 MTPA of Lignite and 29.81 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 2959.6715 ha by M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited located at Villages Lakhat, Kaner & Punharajpur, Tehsil Lakhat, District Kutch, Gujarat subject to certain specific conditions in addition to the standard EC conditions applicable to non-coal mining project given at Annexure (1) and lignite mining at Annexure [3]. The details of the project along with observation and recommendation of the EAC as per approved minutes is given at Annexure (2).
6. The MoEF&CC has examined the proposal in accordance with the provisions contained in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and based on the recommendations of the EACs hereby accords Environmental Clearance for mining of Lignite and Limestone in Lakhat & Punharajpur Lignite Block and Limestone mine for production capacity of 3 MTPA of Lignite and 29.81 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 2959.6715 ha by M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited located at Villages Lakhat, Kaner & Punharajpur, Tehsil Lakhat, District Kutch, Gujarat subject to certain specific conditions in addition to the standard EC conditions applicable to non-coal mining project given at Annexure (1) and standard EC conditions for lignite mining given at Annexure (3).
7. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary.
8. The Environmental Clearance to the aforementioned project is under provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. It does not tantamount to approvals/consent/permissions etc. required to be obtained under any other Act/Rule/regulation. The Project Proponent is under obligation to obtain approvals /clearances under any other Acts/ Regulations or Statutes, as applicable, to the project.
9. The PP is under obligation to implement commitments made in the Environment Management Plan, which forms part of this EC.
10. General Instructions:
 1. The project proponent shall prominently advertise it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days indicating that the project has been accorded environment clearance and the details of MoEF&CC website where it is displayed.
 2. The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn must display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
 3. The project proponent shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved by the Board of Directors (in case of Company) or competent authority, duly prescribing standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental / forest / wildlife norms / conditions.

4. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the project proponent (during construction phase) and authorized entity mandated with compliance of conditions (during operational phase) shall be prepared. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Six monthly progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six-Monthly Compliance Report.
 5. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
 6. The Regional Office of this MoEF&CC shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information/monitoring reports.
 7. Any appeal against this EC shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
11. This issue with an approval of the Competent Authority.

Copy To

- i. The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001.
- ii. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001.
- iii. The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Gujarat, Gujarat.
- iv. The Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Gujarat, Gujarat.
- v. The Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Gujarat, Gujarat.
- vi. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Gujarat, Gujarat
- vii. The Director General & CIM, Directorate General of Mines Safety, Hirapur, Dhanbad, Jharkhand, 826001
- viii. The Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Gandhi Nagar, A-Wing – 407 & 409, Aranya Bhawan, Near CH-3 Circle, Sector-10A, Gandhi Nagar – 382010.
- ix. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
- x. The Chairman, Gujarat Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhavan, Sector-10A, Gandhinagar-382 010, Gujarat.
- xi. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.
- xii. The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Board, Shahjahan road, New Delhi-110 011.
- xiii. The District Collector, Kachchh District, Govt. of Gujarat.
- xiv. Guard File.
- xv. PARIVESH Portal.

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Mining Of Minerals)

1. Specific Conditions For Limestone

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	PP shall restrict the mining activity in the already acquired area of 2129.3298 ha. Upon acquisition of remaining Govt. land/ Private land PP shall seek an amendment in the EC before undertaking mining activity in those lands.
1.2	PP is allowed to stock limestone mineral till the establishment of cement plant. However no stocking of limestone mineral shall be allowed for more than 3 years from the date of issuance of

S. No	EC Conditions
	this EC. PP shall undertake regular water sprinkling/mist spraying on the stocked limestone mineral to prevent any fugitive dust circulation owing to heavy winds. If necessary metal windscreens shall be installed around the stocks.
1.3	PP shall obtain necessary permission from State Water Resource Department/Irrigation department before diverting the seasonal nallah and 5 ponds within the ML area. PP shall protect the well present within the ML area.
1.4	As committed by PP, no blasting activities shall be allowed within the ML area.
1.5	As committed PP shall adopt and protect the five ponds in different Villages having an area of 121.09 ha. The ponds selected by PP are Shinapur pond, SK Verma Nagar, Ukher, Punrajpur 1 and Punrajpur 2.
1.6	PP needs to protect the Kali river in consultation with State Water Resource Department and State Pollution Control Board .
1.7	Alternate grazing land for 75.20 Ha shall be provided for cattle, as per the rules of State Government in this regard. No mining activity shall be carried out on the Grazing land of 75.20 ha before the alternate grazing land is provided by the concerned State authority.
1.8	PP needs to undertake plantation around the Kaner primary school in consultation with the school authorities. PP shall erect metal wind screens around the school wherever required. All mitigation measures should be taken so that there is no adverse affect of mining activities, air pollution to School.
1.9	No transportation through the village road shall be allowed.
1.10	PP shall not discharge any untreated surface/mine pit water outside the ML area. Catch drains, siltation ponds, gabbions structures etc. should be installed at all appropriate location to ensure the above.
1.11	The Project Proponent shall take adequate measures to prevent the pilferage of minerals during their transportation. All dumpers should be covered with tarpaulin during transportation. Truck drivers, helpers, Operators, Supervisors, and contractor personnel should be properly trained on environmental aspects. A record of the above training of the personnel, supervisor/officials should be submitted to the Regional office of MoEF&CC.
1.12	The natural water bodies and or streams which are flowing in and around the mine lease area should not be disturbed. PP shall consult the state Water Resource department and SPCB regarding safeguards for Nallah/Stream and follow their instructions. Implementation status of this condition should be communicated to the Ministry's Regional Office.
1.13	The Project Proponent shall continue to monitor the air quality, noise level, water quality, water level, at the edge of the mine, near the village, and at other sensitive receptors, and such collected data shall be submitted quarterly to the Ministry's Regional Office.
1.14	Project Proponent shall install 4 nos of CAAQMS, 2 each in core zone and the buffer zone of the ML area in consultation with the Gujarat State Pollution Control Board. The real-time data so generated should be displayed digitally at the entry and exit gate of the mine lease area for public

S. No	EC Conditions
	display and shall be linked to the server of CPCB/SPCB.
1.15	The air pollution control equipment's like bag filters, vacuum suction hoods, dry fogging system, etc. shall be installed at areas prone to air pollution. PP shall take necessary measures to avoid generation of fugitive dust emissions.
1.16	The Project Proponent needs to use modern equipment's such as Camera Traps for ensuring the presence and movement of wild animals in the study area in consultation with Wildlife Wing of Forest Department. Appropriate interventions shall be taken to minimise stress conditions for wild animals and to avoid Man-Animal conflict. The Project Proponent should follow up with the State Forest Department regarding the implementation of WLCP. An implementation report in this regard needs to be submitted to the Ministry's Regional office in a half-yearly compliance report.
1.17	Covered Belt Conveyor and Silo from the ML area to the proposed extended Naliya railway siding shall be implemented by December 2028 as committed.
1.18	Project proponent shall obtain prior permission from the competent authority before diverting the proposed 33 KV HT line. Guidelines of DGMS should be followed in this respect.
1.19	The Project Proponent shall explore the possibility of using at least 20% of Electric vehicles/CNG/Solar instead of diesel operation within three years. PP needs to install solar power plant at the earliest to reduce dependency on conventional power supply from state.
1.20	The Project Proponent should adopt the proper mitigation measures as proposed under EMP. The adoption of mitigation measures and monitoring of the same as proposed in the EMP shall be done under the supervision of the qualified environmental personnel. The implementation status of the same shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
1.21	The Project Proponent should establish in house (at project site) environment laboratory for measurement of environment parameter with respect to air quality and water (surface and ground). A dedicated team to oversee environment management shall be setup at site which should comprise of Environment Engineers, Laboratory chemist and staff for monitoring of air, water quality parameters on routine basis instead of engaging environment monitoring laboratories/consultants. Any non-compliance or infringement should be reported to the concerned authority.
1.22	The Project Proponent shall conduct third party audit of compliance of EC condition at an interval of three years and its report shall be submitted to RO, MoEF&CC.
1.23	The Project Proponent shall ensure the survival rate of 95% for planting the gap plantation and new plantation. The Project Proponent shall make the actual count on the saplings planted and its survival rate and in case of failure of achievement of 95% survival rate, action plan for achieving the target survival rate shall be submitted to the Ministry's Integrated Regional Office. Density of plantation should be 2500 plants/ha). PP shall make provision for drip irrigation to conserve the water. PP should plant fruit bearing trees along with other native and allied species within the ML area.
1.24	To address the concerns raised during the public hearing, the Project Proponent (PP) shall fulfill all commitments within a period of three years. PP shall comply with all action plans made for public hearing concerns, make regular maintenance and record the progressive activity outcomes. The Project proponent shall ensure that the activities proposed under the public hearing is different from

S. No	EC Conditions
	the CSR activities..
1.25	The Project Proponent needs to provide a good quality drinking water supply to the local people of the Lakhpat and Punrajpur village.
1.26	The Project Proponent shall provide the rainwater harvesting structure at mine offices and quarters/colonies to recharge the groundwater.
1.27	PP needs to construct sedimentation ponds, check dam, gabion structures, retaining wall, garland drain around the dumps and other places in mine lease area, etc, to safeguard the natural Streams/Nallahs flowing in and around the Lease area and to prevent any silt flow outside the project.
1.28	The Project Proponent shall organize an employment-based apprenticeship/ internship training program every year with an appropriate stipend for the youth and other programs to enhance the skills of the local people. The data should be maintained for the training imparted to the persons and the outcome of the training, for the assessment of the training program should be analyzed periodically and improved accordingly. PP needs to identify eligible youths from affected villages and provide them coaching and financial assistance in getting admission in engineering/ medical/diploma/ ITI institutes.
1.29	The Project Proponent should periodically monitor and maintain the health records of the mine workers digitally prior to mining operations, at the time of operation of mine and post mining operations. Regular surveillance shall be carried through regular occupational health check-up every year for mine workers. PP shall also organize medical camp for the benefit of the local people and also the monitor the health impacts due to mining activity.
1.30	The mobile water tankers should be used in the ML area for dust suppression and control. A logbook of water tankers should be maintained mentioning running hours, kilometre reading, and maintenance hours of water tankers for each shift. PP shall use non-toxic chemicals for dust suppression in order to reduce the total water requirement.
1.31	The Project Proponent should install permanent fixed water sprinkling system along the Haul roads.
1.32	PP should use Mobile fog cannons on the roads where dust generation and propagation are emitted on roads.
1.33	The Project Proponent needs to reduce the dependency upon the ground water, surface water (water from rivers, etc.) and it shall construct water reservoirs within the lease area for meeting its day-to-day water needs. An implementation report in this regard needs to submitted to Ministry's Regional Office.
1.34	The mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake regrassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The implementation report of the above said condition shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
1.35	Approval/permission of the CGWA shall be obtained before drawing ground water for the project activities, if applicable. Ground water withdrawal permission should be obtained before mining commencement. State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) concerned shall not issue Consent to

S. No	EC Conditions
	Operate (CTO) till the project proponent obtains such permission. Rainwater harvesting measures, Groundwater recharge measures shall be taken by PP in consultation with CGWA.
1.36	Project proponent shall take necessary other clearances/permissions under various Acts and Rules if any, from the respective authorities / department.
1.37	PP needs to comply the OM dated 24.07.2024 of MoEFCC, wherein it is stated that the plantation of saplings shall be carried out in the earmarked 33% greenbelt area as part of the tree plantation campaign “ EK Ped Ma keNaam” (एक पेड़ माँ के नाम) and the details of the same shall be uploaded in the MeriLife portal(https://merilife.nic.in).
1.38	PP should utilise the Oil & Grease Trap for washing of trucks, HEMM operational in their mine project. Disposal of the used oil & drums should be through authorised recyclers and as per rules. Copy of logbook of Oil withdrawn from Oil & Grease Trap should be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry.
1.39	PP shall ensure that all type of plastic waste generated from the mines shall be stored separately in isolated area and disposed of strictly adhering to the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016. In pursuant to Ministry’s OM dated 18/07/2022 PP shall also create awareness among the people working in the project area as well as in its surrounding area on the ban on Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure compliance of Ministry’s Notification published by the Ministry on 12/08/2021. A report along with photograph on the measures taken shall be submitted to Ministry’s Regional Office.
1.40	PP should conduct awareness programmes, skill development programmes, and training through a group vocational training centre as per the commitment.
1.41	PP shall comply with all the Judgement/ Orders of Hon’ble NGT in the OA No. 304/2019 in the matter of M.Haridasan & Ors. Applicant (s) versus State of Kerala & Ors. Reg.
1.42	PP needs to comply with the Hon’ble NGT’s order dated 21.07.2020 in the OA No. 304/2019 and the recommendation of the CPCB report regarding distance criteria.

2. Specific Conditions For Lignite:

S. No	EC Conditions
2.1	Compensation to the land losers in accordance with the prevailing Norm of State & LARR Act 2013. Compliance status in this regard shall be submitted to the concerned Regional Office of MoEF&CC along with the six-monthly compliance report.
2.2	Project proponent shall carry out plantation on both the sides of the entire Lignite transportation route. Other mitigation measures, such as procurement of adequate nos of mobile fog canon, mist sprinklers etc. for dust suppression shall be undertaken. Lignite transportation by road shall be done only through tarpaulin covered trucks.
2.3	Project proponent shall not divert any water body without obtaining the prior permission from MoEF&CC.

S. No	EC Conditions
2.4	The proposed budget of Rs 7020.15 Lakhs for PH action plan shall be kept in a separate account and audited annually. Project proponent shall implement the action plan to address the issues raised during public hearing within a time frame of 3 years from the date of grant of EC. Apart from this, PP shall strengthen the existing Primary Health Center (PHC) & Community Health Center (CHC) in the study area for better public health. A plan for the same should be submitted within 1 year after receiving EC. Compliance status in this regard shall be submitted along with the six-monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office of MoEF&CC.
2.5	Project proponent shall implement the protective measure proposed in Environment Management Plan (EMP) in a time-bound manner. The budget earmarked for the same is Rs. 1762.83 lakhs (Capital) and Rs 156.56 lakhs (recurring) and should be kept in separate accounts and audited annually. The implementation status along with the amount spent with documentary proof shall be submitted to the concerned Regional Office for the activities carried out during the previous year.
2.6	Proposed greenbelt shall be developed in 49.84 ha which is about 0.017 % of the total project area. A 15 m wide greenbelt, consisting of at least 3 tiers around mine boundary shall be developed as greenbelt and green cover within 3 years after granting the EC as per CPCB/MoEF&CC, New Delhi, guidelines. Local and native species shall be planted with a density of 2500 trees per hectare. Total no. of 2,784,850 saplings will be planted and nurtured in 1113.94 hectares in 39 years. On undisturbed land planting should be done within 5 years after receiving EC.
2.7	A green belt shall be developed all along the nearby village boundaries to reduce impact of air pollution over nearby villages. Plantation must be done on both the sides of coal transportation road and fog canons must be installed for dust suppression before the commencement of the mining operation. In addition to this, PP shall provide 50,000 plant saplings with 4 feet tall fruit bearing plants to farmers for plantation in barren and agriculture lands in the study area every year till the life of the mine with incentive upto 5 years to improve the green cover in and around the mine lease area.
2.8	Garland drains of adequate size shall be provided at the toe of the benches to arrest discharge and runoff with silt and sediments surging into areas adjoining the periphery of Overburden dump, which will be regularly cleaned before the onset of monsoon every year.
2.9	PP shall create a "Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System" for resolving any issues related to the pollution of mines and complaint has to resolve as soon as possible not beyond 30 days. In this regard, adequate awareness to be spread among the public to address their grievance to company with simple and easy manner and for which company needs to devise the mechanism. The same shall be reported to RO within 3 months. A logbook to be maintained by PP on "Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System.
2.10	Third-party audit (by NEERI/CIMFR/IIT/NITs) for air & water quality shall be carried out annually to keep a check on the same. PP shall implement the recommendations of the audit and submit the outcome of the audit to the concerned RO of MoEF&CC.
2.11	The status of mine closure activities must be included in every six months compliance report submitted to the state pollution control board and RO of MoEF&CC.
2.12	The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operations for the conservation and protection of endangered fauna, if any, spotted in the study area. Wildlife conservation plan shall be approved by the competent authority and the same shall be implemented.

S. No	EC Conditions
	PP shall deposit the approved amount as proposed for wildlife conservation plan to the Govt. of Gujarat, PCCF, Gandhinagar.

Standard EC Conditions for (Mining of minerals)

1. Statutory Compliance

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The Project Proponent shall inform the MoEF&CC for any change in ownership of the mining lease. In case there is any change in ownership or mining lease is transferred. PP needs to apply for transfer of EC as per provisions of the para 11 of EIA Notification, 2006 as amended from time to time.
1.2	The Project Authorities should widely advertise about the grant of this EC letter by printing the same in at least two local newspapers, one of which shall be in vernacular language of the concerned area. The advertisement shall be done within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter mentioning that the instant project has been accorded EC and copy of the EC letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board/Committee and web site of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (www.parivesh.nic.in). A copy of the advertisement may be forwarded to the concerned MoEFCC Regional Office for compliance and record.
1.3	State Pollution Control Board/Committee shall be responsible for display of this EC letter at its Regional office, District Industries Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
1.4	The Project proponent complies with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August, 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in matter of Common Cause versus Union of India & Ors before commencing the mining operations.
1.5	The Project Proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in MoEFCC's Office Memorandum No. Z-11013/57/2014-IA.II (M), dated 29th October, 2014, titled "Impact of mining activities on Habitations-Issues related to the mining Projects wherein Habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or Habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area."
1.6	The State Government concerned shall ensure that mining operation shall not be commenced till the entire compensation levied, if any, for illegal mining paid by the Project Proponent through their respective Department of Mining & Geology in strict compliance of Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 2nd August, 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in matter of Common Cause versus Union of India & Ors.
1.7	This Environmental Clearance (EC) is subject to orders/ judgment of Honble Supreme Court of India, Honble High Court, Honble NGT and any other Court of Law, Common Cause Conditions as may be applicable.
1.8	A copy of EC letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO etc. if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.

2.

S. No	EC Conditions
2.1	The Project Proponent shall carryout plantation/ afforestation in backfilled and reclaimed area of mining lease, around water body, along the roadsides, in community areas etc. by planting the native species in consultation with the State Forest Department/ Agriculture Department/ Rural development department/ Tribal Welfare Department/ Gram Panchayat such that only those species be selected which are of use to the local people. The CPCB guidelines in this respect shall also be adhered. The density of the trees should be around 2500 saplings per Hectare. Adequate budgetary provision shall be made for protection and care of trees.
2.2	The Project Proponent shall make necessary alternative arrangements for livestock feed by developing grazing land with a view to compensate those areas which are coming within the mine lease. The development of such grazing land shall be done in consultation with the State Government. In this regard, Project Proponent should essentially implement the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to acquisition of grazing land. The sparse trees on such grazing ground, which provide mid-day shelter from the scorching sun, should be scrupulously guarded/ protected against felling and plantation of such trees should be promoted.

3. Air Quality Monitoring And Preservation

S. No	EC Conditions
3.1	The Project Proponent shall install a minimum of 3 (three) online Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations with 1 (one) in upwind and 2 (two) in downwind direction based on long term climatological data about wind direction such that an angle of 120° is made between the monitoring locations to monitor critical parameters, relevant for mining operations, of air pollution viz. PM10, PM2.5, NO2, CO and SO2 etc. as per the methodology mentioned in NAAQS Notification No. B-29016/20/90/PCI/I, dated 18.11.2009 covering the aspects of transportation and use of heavy machinery in the impact zone. The ambient air quality shall also be monitored at prominent places like office building, canteen etc. as per the site condition to ascertain the exposure characteristics at specific places. The above data shall be digitally displayed within 03 months in front of the main Gate of the mine site.
3.2	Effective safeguard measures for prevention of dust generation and subsequent suppression (like regular water sprinkling, metalled road construction etc.) shall be carried out in areas prone to air pollution wherein high levels of PM10 and PM2.5 are evident such as haul road, loading and unloading point and transfer points. The Fugitive dust emissions from all sources shall be regularly controlled by installation of required equipments/ machineries and preventive maintenance. Use of suitable water-soluble chemical dust suppressing agents may be explored for better effectiveness of dust control system. It shall be ensured that air pollution level conform to the standards prescribed by the MoEFCC/ Central Pollution Control Board.

4. Water Quality Monitoring And Preservation

S. No	EC Conditions
4.1	Project Proponent shall regularly monitor and maintain records w.r.t. ground water level and quality in and around the mine lease by establishing a network of existing wells as well as new piezo-meter installations during the mining operation in consultation with Central Ground Water Authority/ State Ground Water Department. The Report on changes in Ground water level and quality shall be submitted on six-monthly basis to the Regional Office of the Ministry, CGWA and State

S. No	EC Conditions
	Groundwater Department / State Pollution Control Board.
4.2	Quality of polluted water generated from mining operations which include Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) in mines run-off; acid mine drainage and metal contamination in runoff shall be monitored along with Total Suspended Solids (TDS), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), pH and Total Suspended Solids (TSS). The monitored data shall be uploaded on the website of the company as well as displayed at the project site in public domain, on a display board, at a suitable location near the main gate of the Company. The circular No. J- 20012/1/2006-IA.II (M) dated 27.05.2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may also be referred in this regard.
4.3	Project Proponent shall plan, develop and implement rainwater harvesting measures on long term basis to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with Central Ground Water Board/ State Groundwater Department. A report on amount of water recharged needs to be submitted to Regional Office MoEFCC annually.
4.4	In case, immediate mining scheme envisages intersection of ground water table, then Environmental Clearance shall become operational only after receiving formal clearance from CGWA. In case, mining operation involves intersection of ground water table at a later stage, then PP shall ensure that prior approval from CGWA and MoEFCC is in place before such mining operations. The permission for intersection of ground water table shall essentially be based on detailed hydro-geological study of the area.
4.5	Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the notified standards prescribed from time to time. The standards shall be prescribed through Consent to Operate (CTO) issued by concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB). The workshop effluent shall be treated after its initial passage through Oil and grease trap.
4.6	The water balance/water auditing shall be carried out and measure for reducing the consumption of water shall be taken up and reported to the Regional Office of the MoEF&CC and State Pollution Control Board/Committee.
4.7	The Project Proponent shall undertake regular monitoring of natural water course/ water resources/ springs and perennial nallahs existing/ flowing in and around the mine lease including upstream and downstream. Sufficient number of gullies shall be provided at appropriate places within the lease for management of water. The parameters to be monitored shall include their water quality vis-à-vis suitability for usage as per CPCB criteria and flow rate. It shall be ensured that no obstruction and/ or alteration be made to water bodies during mining operations without justification and prior approval of MoEFCC. The monitoring of water courses/ bodies existing in lease area shall be carried out four times in a year viz. pre- monsoon (April May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the record of monitored data may be sent regularly to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Regional Office, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, State Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board. Clearly showing the trend analysis on six-monthly basis.

5. Noise And Vibration Monitoring And Prevention

S. No	EC Conditions
5.1	The peak particle velocity at 500m distance or within the nearest habitation, whichever is closer

S. No	EC Conditions
	shall be monitored periodically as per applicable DGMS guidelines.
5.2	The illumination and sound at night at project sites disturb the villages in respect of both human and animal population. Consequent sleeping disorders and stress may affect the health in the villages located close to mining operations. Habitations have a right for darkness and minimal noise levels at night. PPs must ensure that the biological clock of the villages is not disturbed; by orienting the floodlights/ masks away from the villagers and keeping the noise levels well within the prescribed limits for day /night hours.
5.3	The Project Proponent shall take measures for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. The workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. should be provided with ear plugs /muffs. All personnel including laborers working in dusty areas shall be provided with protective respiratory devices along with adequate training, awareness and information on safety and health aspects. The PP shall be held responsible in case it has been found that workers/ personals/ laborers are working without personal protective equipment.

6. Mining Plan

S. No	EC Conditions
6.1	The land-use of the mine lease area at various stages of mining scheme as well as at the end-of-life shall be governed as per the approved Mining Plan. The excavation vis-à-vis backfilling in the mine lease area and corresponding afforestation to be raised in the reclaimed area shall be governed as per approved mining plan. PP shall ensure the monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. The compliance status shall be submitted half-yearly to the MoEFCC and its concerned Regional Office.
6.2	The Project Proponent shall adhere to approved mining plan, inter alia, including, total excavation (quantum of mineral, waste, over burden, inter burden and top soil etc.); mining technology; lease area; scope of working (method of mining, overburden & dump management, O.B& dump mining, mineral transportation mode, ultimate depth of mining, concurrent reclamation and reclamation at mine closure; land-use of the mine lease area at various stages of mining scheme as well as at the end-of-life; etc.).

7. Land Reclamation

S. No	EC Conditions
7.1	The slope of dumps shall be vegetated in scientific manner with suitable native species to maintain the slope stability, prevent erosion and surface run off. The selection of local species regulates local climatic parameters and help in adaptation of plant species to the microclimate. The gullies formed on slopes should be adequately taken care of as it impacts the overall stability of dumps. The dump mass should be consolidated with the help of dozer/ compactors thereby ensuring proper filling/ leveling of dump mass. In critical areas, use of geo textiles/ geo-membranes / clay liners / Bentonite etc. shall be undertaken for stabilization of the dump.
7.2	Check dams of appropriate size, gradient and length shall be constructed around mine pit and OB dumps to prevent storm run-off and sediment flow into adjoining water bodies. A safety margin of 50% shall be kept for designing of sump structures over and above peak rainfall (based on 50 years

S. No	EC Conditions
	data) and maximum discharge in the mine and its adjoining area which shall also help in providing adequate retention time period thereby allowing proper settling of sediments/ silt material. The sedimentation pits/ sumps shall be constructed at the corners of the garland drains.
7.3	Catch drains, settling tanks and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, mineral yards and Top Soil/OB/Waste dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the water bodies (Nallah/ River/ Pond etc.). The collected water should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development, plantation etc. The drains/ sedimentation sumps etc. shall be de-silted regularly, particularly after monsoon season, and maintained properly.
7.4	The Overburden (O.B.), waste and topsoil generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked OB dump site(s) only and it should not be kept active for a long period of time. The physical parameters of the OB / waste dumps / topsoil dump like height, width and angle of slope shall be governed as per the approved Mining Plan and the guidelines/circulars issued by D.G.M.S. The topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation.

8. Transportation

S. No	EC Conditions
8.1	No Transportation of the minerals shall be allowed in case of roads passing through villages/ habitations. In such cases, PP shall construct a 'bypass' road for the purpose of transportation of the minerals leaving an adequate gap (say at least 200 meters) so that the adverse impact of sound and dust along with chances of accidents could be mitigated. All costs resulting from widening and strengthening of existing public road network shall be borne by the PP in consultation with nodal State Govt. Department. Transportation of minerals through road movement in case of existing village/ rural roads shall be allowed in consultation with nodal State Govt. Department only after required strengthening such that the carrying capacity of roads is increased to handle the traffic load. The pollution due to transportation load on the environment will be effectively controlled and water sprinkling will also be done regularly. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Project should obtain Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate for all the vehicles from authorized pollution testing centers. [If applicable in case of road transport].
8.2	The Main haulage road within the mine lease should be provided with a permanent water sprinkling arrangement for dust suppression. Other roads within the mine lease should be wetted regularly with tanker-mounted water sprinkling system. The other areas of dust generation like crushing zone, material transfer points, material yards etc. should invariably be provided with dust suppression arrangements. The air pollution control equipments like bag filters, vacuum suction hoods, dry fogging system etc. shall be installed at Crushers, belt-conveyors and other areas prone to air pollution. The belt conveyor should be fully covered to avoid generation of dust while transportation. PP shall take necessary measures to avoid generation of fugitive dust emissions.

9. Green Belt

S. No	EC Conditions
9.1	The Project Proponent shall develop greenbelt in 7.5m wide safety zone all along the mine lease boundary as per the guidelines of CPCB in order to arrest pollution emanating from mining

S. No	EC Conditions
	operations within the lease. The whole Green belt shall be developed within first 5 years starting from windward side of the active mining area. The development of greenbelt shall be governed as per the EC granted by the Ministry irrespective of the stipulation made in approved mine plan.

10. Public Hearing And Human Health Issues

S. No	EC Conditions
10.1	Project Proponent shall make provision for the housing for workers/labors or shall construct labor camps within/outside (company owned land) with necessary basic infrastructure/ facilities like fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche for kids etc. The housing may be provided in the form of temporary structures which can be removed after the completion of the project related infrastructure. The domestic waste water should be treated with STP in order to avoid contamination of underground water.

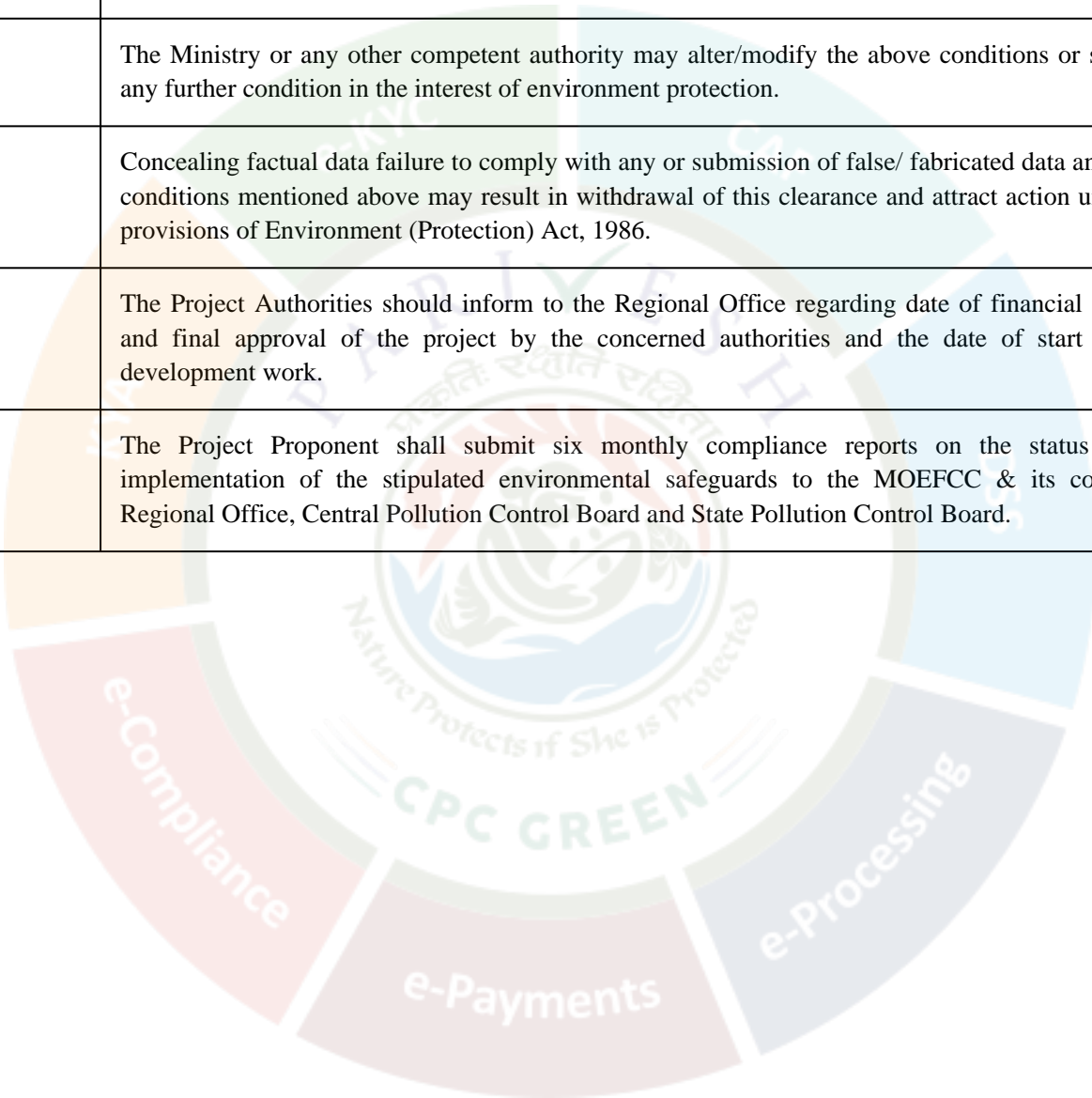
11. Corporate Environment Responsibility

S. No	EC Conditions
11.1	The Project Proponent shall submit the time- bound action plan to the concerned regional office of the Ministry within 6 months from the date of issuance of environmental clearance for undertaking the activities committed during public consultation by the project proponent and as discussed by the EAC, in terms of the provisions of the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30 September, 2020. The action plan shall be implemented within three years of commencement of the project.

12. Miscellaneous

S. No	EC Conditions
12.1	The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/High Court and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.
12.2	The concerned Regional Office of the MoEF&CC shall randomly monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the MoEF&CC officer(s) by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
12.3	A separate 'Environmental Management Cell' with suitable qualified manpower should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive. The Senior Executive shall directly report to Head of the Organization. Adequate number of qualified Environmental Scientists and Mining Engineers shall be appointed and submit a report to RO, MoEF&CC.
12.4	Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

S. No	EC Conditions
12.5	In pursuant to Ministry's O.M No 22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16.01.2020 to comply with the direction made by Honble Supreme Court on 8.01.2020 in W.P. (Civil) No 114/2014 in the matter Common Cause vs Union of India, the mining lease holder shall after ceasing mining operations, undertake regrassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to other mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.
12.6	The Project Proponent shall prepare digital map (land use & land cover) of the entire lease area once in five years purpose of monitoring land use pattern and submit a report to concerned Regional Office of the MoEF&CC.
12.7	The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
12.8	Concealing factual data failure to comply with any or submission of false/ fabricated data and of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
12.9	The Project Authorities should inform to the Regional Office regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
12.10	The Project Proponent shall submit six monthly compliance reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the MOEFCC & its concerned Regional Office, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.



Details of the project

The instant proposal is for Environmental Clearance for mining of Lignite and Limestone in Lakhpat & Punharajpur Lignite Block and Limestone mine for production capacity of 3 MTPA of Lignite and 29.81 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 2959.6715 ha by M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited located at Villages Lakhpat, Kaner & Punharajpur, Tehsil Lakhpat, District Kutch, Gujarat.

2. The details of the project submitted by the Project Proponent are given under:

i. Project details:

Name of the Proposal	Lakhpat & Punrajpur Limestone (29.81 MTPA) & Lignite (3.0 MTPA) Mining Project over an area of 2959.6715 Ha, Located at Village Lakhpat, Punrajpur and Kaner, Taluka Lakhpat, District - Kutch, Gujarat.	
Location	Village	Lakhpat, Punrajpur and Kaner
	Tehsil/Taluka	Lakhpat
	District	Kutch
	State / UT	Gujarat
	Latitudes	E 68°43'22.983" & E 68°47'30.417"
	Longitudes	N 23°44'40.429" & N 23°49'19.872".
	Sol Topo sheet No.	41 A/9, 41 A/10, 41 A/13 & 41 A/14
Company's Name	M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited	
Accredited Consultant and certificate no. and Validity	NABET/EIA/2326/RA0284_Rev.01 Valid 04 May 2026	
KML file	Attached	
Seismic zone	Zone – V	

ii. Category details:

Category of the project	A.
Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals
Mining lease Area (MLA) (in ha.)	2959.6715

General Conditions (if any)	No
-----------------------------	----

iii. ToR/EC Details:

Date of application	Proposal No/ File No	Consideration by EAC	Details of ToR	Date of accord
20.09.2023	Proposal No IA/GJ/MIN/445103/2023 File No IA-J-11015/29/2023-IA-II(NCM)	29th EAC meeting held during 9-10 May 2024	ToR was grant vide letter no IA-J-11015/29/2023-IA-II(NCM)	23.12.2024
05.05.2022	Proposal No. IA/GJ/CMIN/241556/2021 File No.- J-11015/111/2021-IA-II(M)	30 th EAC meeting held on 20 th May 2022	ToR was grant vide letter no. J-11015/111/2021-IA-II(M)	22.06.2022

iv. Details of Mine Lease in chronological manner:

S.no	Prospecting License/ Letter of Intent (LoI)/ Grant of Mine lease and Lr No	Date of the grant	Name of the Mineral & (Major/ Minor)	Period of Grant	Granted by	Mine lease area in Ha
1	Order No. MCR-102015-406-CHH1 (Part File) Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar, Gujarat	25.10.2021	Major Mineral (Limestone & Lignite)	30 years	Industries of Mines Department, Government of Gujarat	2959.6715

S. No	Details of grant of Mine Lease deed execution	Period of Grant		Name of the Mineral	Mine lease area in Ha
		From	To		

1.	Order No. MCR-102015-406-CHH1 (Part File) Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar, Gujarat	25.10.2021	24.10.2051	Major Mineral (Limestone & Lignite)	2959.6715
----	--	------------	------------	--	-----------

v. Land Use/Land Cover of the Mine Lease Area:

Private land	312.315
Government land	2567.4365 ha. (Barren Land), 2.3 ha water bodies, 2.42 ha Road & Grazing Land 75.20 ha.
Forest land	-
Total Mining lease area (MLA), ha	2959.6715
Private land for crusher, workshop & other infrastructure outside the MLA	-
Additional information (if any)	-

vi. Mining plan details:

Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan (approved by Indian Bureau of Mines/DMG)	Letter No.	MCDR-MPCP0CaFI/7/2023-GNR-IBM_RO_GNR
	Date	09.08.2023
	Mineral & (Major/Minor)	Limestone – Major
	Mine Lease Area, Ha	2959.6715
	Validity	5 Years
Mining Plan including Progressive Mine Closure Plan (approved by Ministry of Coal)	Letter No.	F. No. 55026-3-2020-MPS
	Date	05.10.2020
	Mineral	Lignite
Additional information (if any)	Mining plan & Mine closure plan for Lignite was approved by Ministry of Coal vide letter no. F. No. 55026-3-2020-MPS on dated 5th October, 2020.	

	The Proposal for Lignite Mining has been Recommended for EC vide MoM of the 32nd EAC (Coal Mining Sector) held on 24.09.2025
Mining Parameters	Quantitative Description
Method of Mining	Opencast mining
Drilling/Blasting	No drilling & blasting.
Geological Reserves	736.58 MT
Mineable Reserves	562.50 MT
Breakup of Total Excavation (Topsoil/OB/SB/IB/Mineral Rejects/ Waste, MTPA)	2140.74 Ha
Life of mine	37 years – limestone 39 years – lignite
Mine Bench Height & Bench Width	5 meter & 10 m
No. of Mine Benches	8 (5-year plan)
Ultimate Depth of Mining, m bgl	Min 21.92 m Max: 115.31 m
Ground Water Table, m bgl	3 m to 9m
Details of ground water intersection	Yes
Individual bench slope	80° Individual Bench slope for limestone
Overall pit slope	26°-Ultimate pit slope
Details of existing/ proposed Crusher	Not Applicable
Mineral Beneficiation	Not Applicable
RoM output size	Not Applicable
Transportation details including capacity of dumper/tipper, mode of transport and distance	<p><u>For limestone:</u> The excavated limestone will be heaped by a dozer and subsequently loaded onto 60 T / 50 T RDTs for transportation to the designated mineral stockyards.</p> <p><u>For Lignite:</u></p> <p>i. In pit to surface: By Dumpers/Tipper</p> <p>ii. Surface to Consumer: Lignite Transportation: Initially (0.66–2 MTPA production), lignite will be transported by road. Part of it will be supplied to GMDC's 250 MW Akrimota Thermal Power Station (ATPS), located ~19.4 km southwest of the mine, and the rest to existing customers. GMDC has engaged IRPCL to study a Belt Conveyor & Silo Loading system at the railway siding. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Railways is expanding the Naliya–Lakhat line (Deshalpur–Hajipir–Lakhat section),</p>

	<p>expected to be completed in about 3 years.</p> <p>iii. Proposed change in transportation means if any, give details: Initially, lignite is planned to be transported by road, GMDC is further exploring the future possibilities of Rail transportation as the Ministry of Railways is expanding the Naliya rail line to Lakhpatt (as of now, the distance of Naliya rail line from the said mine is 87 km), and is expected to be completed in 3 years from commencement of mining operation.</p>
Generation of Topsoil/OB & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	<p>Topsoil: 12.64 Mcum Total OB: 1238.2 Mcum</p>
Generation of Mineral Rejects/Waste & its Management during plan period & conceptual period	<p>Total Overburden quantity excluding Limestone is 1238.2 Mcum. The overburden, generated during the mining process shall be utilized for backfilling of the mined-out voids. Topsoil generated during the mining process will be spread over the backfilled areas to make it suitable for plantation and agricultural and supports the environmental sustainability of the mining operations.</p>

vii. Water requirement:

Total water requirement	Total water requirement for the project is 1325 KLD.	Fresh water	50 KLD
		Dewatering water	814 M ³ /day
		Mine pit rain water	461 M ³ /day
Source	<p>Drinking and domestic use: Proposed bore well.</p> <p>Other uses: Pit dewatering water</p>		
Permission for withdrawal/intersection along with details of grant and its validity	Ground water withdrawal permission is under process and application has been made vide application no. 21-4/11717/GJ/MIN/2024, dated 01.04.2024		

viii. Nearest village/town/ highway/interstate boundary/railway station/water bodies/monument/ forest

Particulars	Particular's Name	Distance & Directions
Village	Lakhpatt	~ 300 m in North Direction

Town	Lakhpat	~ 300 m in North Direction																																					
Highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NH-754K (SH-42) ➤ SH-6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ passing within the mining lease area in NE direction. ➤ ~100 meter in North direction. 																																					
Interstate Boundary	India-Pakistan International Boundary	16.75 km in NW direction. (Aerial distance)																																					
Railway Station/Railway line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Naliya ➤ Bhuj 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Approx. 61 km SE & ➤ Approx.110 km SE 																																					
Water Bodies	<p>Following water bodies are present within the lease area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 well and 5 number of ponds are present within mine lease area. • Seasonal nala is passing within the lease area. <p>Following water bodies are present outside the lease area:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>S. No.</th> <th>Name</th> <th>Distance</th> <th>Direction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Kali Nadi</td> <td>~0.3 km</td> <td>W</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Bhagwari Nadi Dam</td> <td>~1.4 Km</td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Kori Creek</td> <td>~ 3.3 km</td> <td>N</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Korawadi Nadi</td> <td>~6.3 km</td> <td>SE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Kapurasi Nadi</td> <td>~9.7 km</td> <td>WSW</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			S. No.	Name	Distance	Direction	1	Kali Nadi	~0.3 km	W	2	Bhagwari Nadi Dam	~1.4 Km	E	3	Kori Creek	~ 3.3 km	N	4	Korawadi Nadi	~6.3 km	SE	5	Kapurasi Nadi	~9.7 km	WSW												
S. No.	Name	Distance	Direction																																				
1	Kali Nadi	~0.3 km	W																																				
2	Bhagwari Nadi Dam	~1.4 Km	E																																				
3	Kori Creek	~ 3.3 km	N																																				
4	Korawadi Nadi	~6.3 km	SE																																				
5	Kapurasi Nadi	~9.7 km	WSW																																				
Forest	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No.</th> <th>Name</th> <th>Distance</th> <th>Direction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Forest near Pranpar</td> <td>~ 50 meters</td> <td>SE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Guneri Mangrove Heritage Site</td> <td>~ 1.9 km</td> <td>SE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Pranpar Rakhal RF</td> <td>~ 1.9 km</td> <td>SE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Akri RF</td> <td>~ 6.7 km</td> <td>SSE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Ukher RF</td> <td>~ 7.1 km</td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Khanot RF</td> <td>~8.5 Km</td> <td>SSE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>Mudhvay RF</td> <td>~8.9 Km</td> <td>SW</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>Gaduli RF</td> <td>~8.5 Km</td> <td>ESE</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			S.No.	Name	Distance	Direction	1	Forest near Pranpar	~ 50 meters	SE	2	Guneri Mangrove Heritage Site	~ 1.9 km	SE	3	Pranpar Rakhal RF	~ 1.9 km	SE	4	Akri RF	~ 6.7 km	SSE	5	Ukher RF	~ 7.1 km	E	6	Khanot RF	~8.5 Km	SSE	7	Mudhvay RF	~8.9 Km	SW	8	Gaduli RF	~8.5 Km	ESE
S.No.	Name	Distance	Direction																																				
1	Forest near Pranpar	~ 50 meters	SE																																				
2	Guneri Mangrove Heritage Site	~ 1.9 km	SE																																				
3	Pranpar Rakhal RF	~ 1.9 km	SE																																				
4	Akri RF	~ 6.7 km	SSE																																				
5	Ukher RF	~ 7.1 km	E																																				
6	Khanot RF	~8.5 Km	SSE																																				
7	Mudhvay RF	~8.9 Km	SW																																				
8	Gaduli RF	~8.5 Km	ESE																																				

ix. **Presence of Environmentally Sensitive areas in the study area**

Forest Land/ Protected Area/ Environmental Sensitivity Zone	Yes/No	Details of Certificate/letter issued by the concerned Department

		mentioning the Lr no., date of grant and remarks
Forest Land within the mine lease area and (if yes) status of Forest Clearance	No	No forest land is involved in the mining lease area. PP also submitted a certificate from Forest and Environment Department Government of Gujarat Gandhinagar vide application no. GUJ/030220230426 on dated 09.02.2023 stating that nearest forest pranpar is 50m distance from mining lease area.
National Park	No	
Wildlife Sanctuary	Yes	Narayan Sarovar 8.8 km in the southern direction.
Elephant/Tiger Reserve	No	-
Eco-Sensitive Zone(ESZ) /Eco-Sensitive Area (ESA)		ESZ is 8.2 km in the southern direction. from the block boundary.
Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ)	No	Not Applicable, NOC obtained from Forest and Environment Department, Government of Gujarat vide file no. ENV-10-2023-86-T on dated 06.11.2023 state that mining lease does not fall under CRZ.
Schedule-I species (No.s and name of schedule-I species with authenticated letter)	Yes	14 mammals, 09 reptiles & 14 Avifauna in the study area. The Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been approved by PCCF, Gandinagar vide letter WLP/C/32/807-809/2024-25 on dated 26.11.2024
Wildlife Conservation Plan	Yes	The Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been approved by PCCF, Gandinagar vide letter WLP/C/32/807-809/2024-25 on dated 26.11.2024

x. Green belt/plantation details:

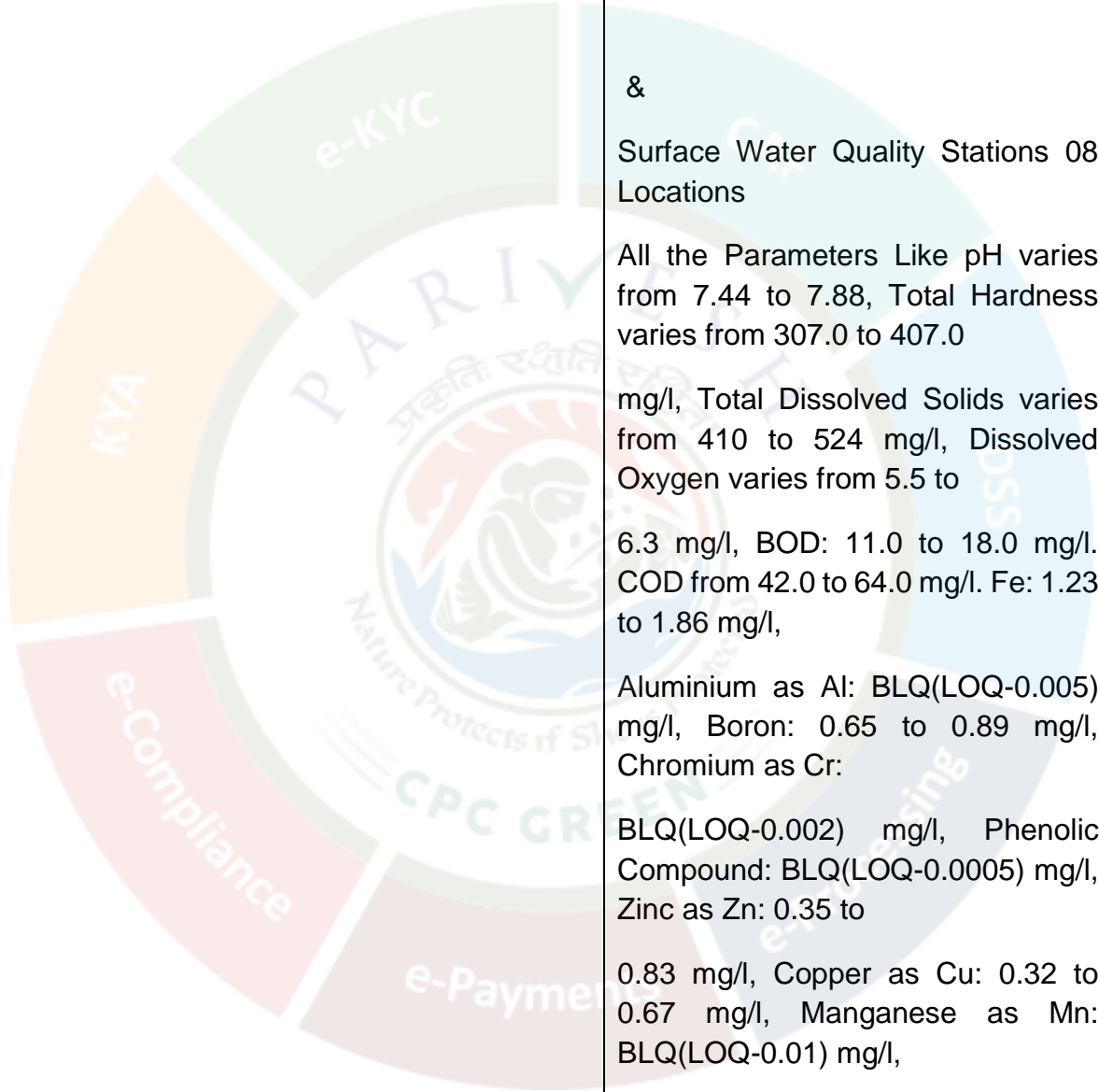
Proposed area for green belt/plantation and no. of saplings proposed	1113.94 ha & 27,84,850 saplings
--	---------------------------------


Budget for green plant & plantation till the end of life of mine.	Budget for green plant 5,56,97,0000 (55.69 Crore)
No. of tree cuts in the mine lease area and compensatory afforestation	165
Particulars for Green belt/plantation	Area covered (in Ha)
7.5 m barrier & non-mineralized zone	49.84
50 m safety zone of nallah, roads, electric lines	14.06
500 m safety zones of nearest habitation villages	941.74 (on Backfilled area) 7.68 (on Top soil dump) 100.62 (on External Dump)

xi. **Baseline detail:**

Baseline Data (Air / Water / Noise / Soil / Hydro geological study/ Traffic Study/ others)	
Period of baseline data collection	March to May, 2024
Season (Summer / Pre-monsoon / Post-monsoon / Winter)	Pre-Monsoon
Predominant Wind direction (From)	SW to NE
Ambient Air Quality (no. of locations) and results	10 Core Zone: PM ₁₀ = 43.30 to 57.70 µg/m ³ PM _{2.5} = 27.50 to 35.40 µg/m ³ SO ₂ = 7.60 to 13.40 µg/m ³ NO _x = 15.80 to 23.50 µg/m ³ CO = 0.15 to 0.23 mg/m ³ Buffer Zone: PM ₁₀ = 44.50 to 67.00 µg/m ³ PM _{2.5} = 28.20 to 41.10 µg/m ³

	<p>SO₂ = 7.10 to 18.00 µg/m³</p> <p>NO_x = 16.10 to 27.90 µg/m³</p> <p>CO = 0.18 to 0.67 mg/m³</p>
Noise level (no. of locations) and results	<p>10</p> <p>Core Zone (Industrial Zone)</p> <p>38.40 dB(A) for the day time and 33.60 dB(A) for the Night time.</p> <p>Buffer Zone (Residential Zone)</p> <p>45.94 to 52.63 dB(A) for the day time and 36.36 to 42.93 dB(A) for the Night time.</p>
Water Quality (no. of locations) and results	<p>Ground Water Quality Stations 10</p> <p>pH: 7.35 to 7.63, Total Dissolved solids: 641.0 to 790.0 mg/l; Hardness: 355.0 to 498.0 mg/l;</p> <p>Chlorides: 225.91 to 301.28 mg/l, Fluoride: 0.32 to 0.42 mg/l. Heavy metals Fe: 0.55 to 0.88 mg/l, Zinc as Zn: 0.61 to 1.15 mg/l, Copper as Cu: BLQ(LOQ-0.002) mg/l, Cyanide as CN: BLQ(LOQ-0.02) mg/l, Aluminium as Al: BLQ(LOQ-0.005) mg/l, Boron: BLQ(LOQ-0.01) mg/l, Chromium as Cr: BLQ(LOQ-0.002) mg/l, Phenolic Compound: BLQ(LOQ-0.0005) mg/l, Manganese as Mn: BLQ(LOQ-0.01) mg/l, Cadmium as Cd: BLQ(LOQ-0.002) mg/l, Lead as</p>

	<p>Pb: BLQ(LOQ-0.002) mg/l, Selenium as Se: BLQ(LOQ-0.001) mg/l, Arsenic as As:</p> <p>BLQ(LOQ-0.005) mg/l, Mercury as Hg: BLQ(LOQ-0.0005) mg/l, Total Coliform: <1.8</p> <p>MPN/100ml.</p> <p>&</p> <p>Surface Water Quality Stations 08 Locations</p> <p>All the Parameters Like pH varies from 7.44 to 7.88, Total Hardness varies from 307.0 to 407.0</p> <p>mg/l, Total Dissolved Solids varies from 410 to 524 mg/l, Dissolved Oxygen varies from 5.5 to</p> <p>6.3 mg/l, BOD: 11.0 to 18.0 mg/l. COD from 42.0 to 64.0 mg/l. Fe: 1.23 to 1.86 mg/l,</p> <p>Aluminium as Al: BLQ(LOQ-0.005) mg/l, Boron: 0.65 to 0.89 mg/l, Chromium as Cr:</p> <p>BLQ(LOQ-0.002) mg/l, Phenolic Compound: BLQ(LOQ-0.0005) mg/l, Zinc as Zn: 0.35 to</p> <p>0.83 mg/l, Copper as Cu: 0.32 to 0.67 mg/l, Manganese as Mn: BLQ(LOQ-0.01) mg/l,</p> <p>Cadmium as Cd: BLQ(LOQ-0.002) mg/l, Total Coliform: 700 to 1100 MPN/100ml., E. Coli:</p> <p>170 to 500 MPN/100ml etc. are found within the permissible limits.</p>
<p>Soil Quality (no. of locations) and results</p>	<p>10</p>

	<p>pH – 7.44 to 7.89 Organic Matter - 0.30 % to 0.40 % Available Nitrogen – 157.22 to 193.78 Kg/ha Available Phosphorus – 18.45 to 25.19 Kg/ha Potassium – 152.93 to 179.72 mg/Kg</p>
<p>Hydro geological study and results</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The lease area exhibits a varied topography with a maximum elevation of 48 m above mean sea level (mamsl) and a minimum elevation of 12 mamsl, resulting in an overall average elevation of around 20 mamsl. ➤ In the surrounding region, the Kali River flows at a general elevation of about 15 mamsl, which is lower than the average elevation of the lease area. ➤ The High Flood Level (HFL) of the Kali River is recorded between 28 mamsl and 30 mamsl, indicating that during extreme flood events, the river water level will not touch the lease area. ➤ SEAWAT Modelling has been done for the project site by considering all the hydrogeological aspects and it has been concluded that the ground water moves towards the sea. Hence, the mine dewatering would not ingress of seawater towards the mine. ➤ The CGWA NOC application was submitted on 01.04.2024. The case was subsequently discussed in the 47th External EAC meeting of CGWA, where it was recommended to obtain an opinion from the State Groundwater Department for the project. Accordingly, a request

	<p>letter was submitted to GWRDA, Gandhinagar on 30.07.2024 seeking their opinion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Further, GWRDA, Gandhinagar advised the preparation of a Recharge Plan, Check Dam and Injection Well Proposal & Feasibility Report. The required report has been prepared and submitted to the department on 19.09.2025 for their review. At present the application is under review at state ground water department.
<p>Traffic study (no. of locations) and results</p>	<p>A detailed traffic study has been conducted to assess the impact of transportation on two main roads i.e SH-42 (NH754K) & SH-06. The LOS study shows that the existing traffic scenario is “Excellent” for SH- 42 & SH 06 and the free flow of vehicles is observed during the study period. However, Due to the proposed mining project, traffic density is expected to increase if the entire mineral will be transported through the Road (SH- 42 & SH 06) and which would change the LOS to ‘Good’.</p>

xii. Public Hearing (PH) Details:

<p>Advertisement for PH with date (name of major national daily and one regional vernacular daily newspaper)</p>	<p>Advertisement for PH :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Times of India Dated: 22.02.2025. ➤ Kutch Mitra: 22.02.2025
<p>Date of PH</p>	<p>28.03.2025 at 12.30 PM</p>
<p>Venue</p>	<p>Near GMDC project office –Lakhpat Punrajpur, Lakhpat Gadhuli Highway, Mukam Post Lakhpat, Taluka Lakhpat & District Kutch</p>

Chaired by	SDM and RO- Kutch (West), GPCB
Main issues raised during PH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Promulgation, Land acquisition, Land Losers & Compensation. • Gauchar Land Issues • Employment Issues & Skill Development • Education & Healthcare • Greenbelt development • Mine Planning & Safety • Water & Water Resource Management • Biodiversity & Ecological Protection.
Budget proposed for addressing issues raised during PH over 3 years	7020.15 Lakhs

xiii. Details of CTE/CTO, Certified Compliance Report, Certified Production Details from the inception of the mine:

Particulars	Details of Letter along with date of grant and validity
Consent to Establish	05.02.2025
Consent to Operate	-

xiv. Rehabilitation & Resettlement (R&R):

R & R details	No (R&R) activity is involved in the proposed mining lease area. However, compensation will be provided for the private land acquired for the mining project, in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR Act, 2013)</i> .
---------------	---

xv. Court case details:

Court Case, No and its present status	No Court case is ongoing
---------------------------------------	--------------------------

Undertaking by Project Proponent w.r.t court case	PP submitted the undertaking dated 15.10.2025 w.r.t court case.
---	---

xvi. Affidavit/Undertaking details:

Affidavit as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018	PP submitted Affidavit dated 15.10.2025 as per Ministry's OM dated 30.05.2018.
Undertaking by Project Proponent in EIA/EMP report	Undertaking by Project Proponent in EIA/EMP report is provided.
Undertaking by Consultant in EIA/EMP report	Undertaking by consultant in EIA/EMP report is provided.
Plagiarism Certificate	Plagiarism Certificate is provided with EIA/EMP report.

xvii. Project Proponent has submitted the point-wise reply of EDS raised on 27.08.2025 as mentioned below:

S. No	EDS Point	Reply by Project Proponent
1.	PP needs to submit the compliance of specific ToR condition xxiii “The Project Proponent needs to undertake the enumeration of the plant species within the mine lease area before cutting. The Project Proponent also needs to submit the compensatory afforestation plan for the no. of trees to be cut in the mine lease area and also to explore the possibility of tree transplantation”.	GMDC has carried out a detailed enumeration of the plant species within the mine lease area prior to any tree felling. As the mine lease area does not involve any forest land, there are few scattered trees observed in the Mine lease area. However, GMDC will avoid any unnecessary tree cutting. The total tree population within the project area is 169, out of which 165 trees need to be cleared for mining operations. At the end of life of the mine total 27,84,850 no. of saplings will be planted with 80% survival rate (Native species including Prosopis juliflora (Vilayati Babool), Capparis decidua (Ker), Ziziphus nummularia (Bordi), and Parkinsonia aculeata (Kikar) etc. are proposed for plantation.). GMDC will also explore the possibility of tree transplantation.
2.	PP needs to submit the compliance of specific ToR Condition xxvi “PP shall submit letter from Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, State Government that the area does not falls under any authorized Elephants and Tiger corridors.”	The letter has been obtained from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) wildlife Gujarat State, Gandhinagar stated that the area does not fall under any authorized Elephants and Tiger corridors vide letter no. WLP/26/B/4061-63/2025-26 on 07.10.2025

xviii. Details of the Environmental Management Plan (EMP):

Activities		Capital cost (Crores)	Recurring cost (Lakhs/annum)	
S. No.	Environmental Protection Measures	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost	
		(Rs. In lakhs)	(Rs. In lakhs/year)	
1	Air Pollution Control Measures	105	20	
	Dry fog Dust Suppression Systems at Loading and unloading Point			
2	Water Pollution Control Measures	40.5	6.95	
	Construction of Garland drain			
	Construction of Garland drain around the OB dump			
	Toe wall around the dump			
3	Noise Pollution Control Measures	50	2.5	
4	Greenbelt Development	556.97	55.7	
i	<i>Plantation over virgin area</i>			
ii	<i>**Technical and Biological reclamation of Mines out land & OB dump plantation</i>			
5	Rainwater Harvesting	498	12.55	
6	Budget for Pond Conservation Measures	30	2	
7	Construction of Haul Road	25	3	
8	Occupational Health & Safety	118.36	42.86	
9	Environment & Monitoring & Management	5	1	
Total EMP Budget		1762.83	156.56	

xix. Details of project cost and employment:

Particulars	(Rs. In Crore)
Total cost of EMP (Capital Cost of EMP + capital cost of Public hearing)	Capital- 1762.83 Lakhs Recurring- 156.56 Lakhs/Year
Project Cost	Rs. 323.69 Crores
Employment (No.s)	1000

3. Observation and Recommendation of the Committee:

The instant proposal is for Environmental Clearance for mining of Lignite and Limestone in Lakhpat & Punharajpur Lignite Block and Limestone mine for production capacity of 3 MTPA of Lignite and 29.81 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 2959.6715 ha by M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited located at Villages Lakhpat, Kaner & Punharajpur, Tehsil Lakhpat, District Kutch, Gujarat.

The proposed project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) - Mining of minerals under Category "A" of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 and appraised at Central Level.

The proposal regarding lignite mining was duly appraised and recommended by the EAC – Coal Mining sector in its 32nd EAC Meeting held on 24-25th September 2025 subject to adherence to environmental safeguards/conditions. Minutes of 32nd EAC meeting of Coal Mining sector is available on PARIVESH portal.

The Project Proponent/Consultant presented the KML file to indicate the site features in the study area of 10 km radius. PP informed that proposed project is a Greenfield opencast mining project of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (GMDC) over a lease area of 2959.6715 Ha in the villages of Lakhpat, Punrajpur & Kaner in Taluka Lakhpat, Dist. Kutch, Gujarat. The Block was reserved for mining by M/s GMDC by State Government with the prior approval of Central Government (07/12/2016) by notification in official gazette under Sec 17(A) (2) of MMDR Act 1957 on dated 03/07/2017. Mining Lease order has been issued by Industries of Mines Department, Government of Gujarat, for a period of 30 years for Lignite and Limestone on 25.10.2021. The Proposed Production rated capacity of the mine for Limestone is 29.81 MTPA & Lignite is 3.0 MTPA. Mining plan & Progressive Mine closure plan for Limestone was approved by Indian Bureau of Mines vide letter no. MCDR-MPCP0CaFI/7/2023-GNR-IBM_RO_GNR dated 09.08.2023 & for Lignite was approved by Ministry of Coal vide letter no. F. No. 55026-3- 2020-MPS on dated 5th October, 2020. TOR granted by MoEF&CC for Limestone on dated 23.12.2024 & for Lignite on dated: 22.06.2022.

While presenting the KML file , PP stated that nearest village is Lakhpat located at a distance of ~ 300 m in North Direction from the mining lease area. Lakhpat fort is around 500 m in North direction from the mining lease area and it's boundary is 200 m. NOC in this regard has been obtained from the Directorate of Archaeology & Museums vide letter dated 28.10.2024. Wherein, it is mentioned that, *"it is recommended that any mining activity beyond 300 meters be conducted in accordance with applicable local, environmental, and mining laws to ensure compliance with all other regulatory frameworks governing such activities"*. The ML area is located at a distance of approximately 8.2 km from the Narayan Sarovar Wildlife Sanctuary Eco-Sensitive Zone (Notification dated 31.05.2012) and at a distance of approximately 1.9 km from Guneri Biodiversity Heritage Site. NBWL requirement for the same is not required. PP also stated that ML area does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/ Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment 2018 of CPCB.

Upon reviewing the KML file, EAC also noted that one well and 5 number of ponds are present within mine lease area and a seasonal nala is passing within the lease area. PP reported that a seasonal nala is located on the southwestern side of the block, and its diversion is unavoidable, however diversion is scheduled after 20 years from the start of mining operations. GMDC commits to undertake the diversion in consultation with the State Government's Water Resources Department. The diversion will be planned to minimize environmental impact, ensure compliance with regulatory requirements, and preserve the natural flow while protecting the surrounding ecosystem. PP also informed that they will divert the existing five ponds within the lease area (having an area of 78.26 ha) and will adopt five other ponds in different villages having an area of 121.09 ha. The ponds selected by PP are Shinapur pond, SK Verma Nagar, Ukher, Punrajpur 1 and Punrajpur 2.

EAC also noted that Kali River is passing adjacent to the project site at a distance of 230m. Accordingly, EAC advised to protect the river in consultation with State Water Resource Department and State Pollution Control Board.

PP also reported that Kaner primary school lying at a distance of 0.5 km from the ML area in the northern direction. EAC noted the submission of PP and advised to undertake plantation around the school in consultation with the school authorities. EAC also advised to erect wind screens if required.

PP further stated that State Highway passes within and adjacent to the mine lease area. Kori Creek is situated at a distance of 1 km towards Northern side. This region receives an annual rainfall of about 200–300 mm. The project site does not fall under CRZ area. The Committee also observed that the said project is at a distance of 16.75 km from the India-Pakistan border. PP has obtained a NoC from the Ministry of Defence vide letter dated 14.10.2024.

PP submitted that a High-Tension line is passing through the lease area and it needs to be shifted within the 15th year from the commencement of the mining operation at this site. The committee opined that the necessary permission shall be obtained from the competent authority in this regard.

PP also submitted that no forest land is involved in the mining lease area. PP also submitted a certificate from Forest and Environment Department Government of Gujarat Gandhinagar vide application no. GUJ/030220230426 on dated 09.02.2023 stating that nearest forest pranpar is 50m distance from mining lease area.

PP also reported the presence of 75.20 ha of grazing land within the ML area and stated that they are going to provide alternate land of 75.20 ha lying near to the ML area. EAC noted the submission of PP and advised that PP should provide the alternate grazing land. No mining activity shall be carried out on the Grazing land of 75.20 ha before the alternate grazing land is provided by the PP to the State Authority.

The Project Proponent has informed the EAC that the instant proposal is for mining of Lignite and Limestone. PP submitted that EC proposal (Proposal No.

IA/GJ/CMIN/550329/2025) for mining of lignite has already been recommended by EAC- Coal Mining Sector vide minutes of the 32nd EAC meeting held during 24-25 September 2025.

EAC noted that instant proposal involves interlinked component of lignite mining and as per the provisions contained under MoEF&CC O.M. dated 24/12/2010 pertaining to consideration of inter-linked projects, Common EIA report has been prepared and public hearing has been completed for the all the sectoral components. Further, proposal for grant of EC for lignite (Proposal no: IA/GJ/CMIN/550329/2025) and limestone mining (proposal no. IA/GJ/MIN/545165/2025) has been submitted simultaneously.

Regarding method of mining, PP submitted that opencast mining without drilling and blasting using surface miner shall be undertaken. The life of mine as per the proposed production capacity of 29.81 MTPA of limestone is 37 years for limestone and 39 years for lignite.

On the issue of transportation, PP submitted that the excavated limestone will be heaped by a dozer and subsequently loaded onto 60 T / 50 T RDTs for transportation to the designated mineral stockyards. PP also informed that a Long-Term Supply Agreement has been signed with JK Cement and City Gold Pipes Pvt. Ltd. (a consortium of Gold Crest Cement Private Limited and Kailash Darshan Housing Development, Gujarat) for the utilization of the limestone in cement manufacturing. The limestone will be transported to the proposed plants located within 10 Km radius from the mine. PP also stated that M/s GMDC has engaged IPRCL to conduct a feasibility study for implementing a Belt Conveyor & Silo Loading system at its railway siding for transport of lignite. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Railways plans to expand the Naliya rail line to Lakhpat, with gauge conversion work underway and a new line project approved. The Deshalpur-Hajipir-Lakhpat rail line will enhance connectivity and facilitate transportation of goods, with a projected completion timeline of 3 years. PP also reported that they have conducted the traffic survey as per IRC: 64-1990 at SH-06 (T1) and SH-42 (NH754 K) (T2). The LOS study shows that the existing traffic scenario is "Excellent" for SH- 42 & SH 06 and the free flow of vehicles is observed during the study period. However, due to the proposed mining project, traffic density is expected to increase if the entire mineral will be transported through the Road (SH-42 & SH 06) and which would change the LOS to 'Good'.

EAC noted the submission of PP and asked how long they intend to store the mineral at the proposed stockyard. PP informed that they will transport the lignite to the Akrimota Thermal Power Station of GMDC located 7.4 KM west from the ML area and also to the consumers of different industries. With regard to limestone, PP stated that as per approved mining plan, the limestone is proposed to be stocked for 5 years before dispatch to the cement plants. EAC accordingly, enquired about the time period required for establishment of cement plant. PP stated that it will take around 3 years. PP further mentioned that they have signed Long-Term Supply Agreement with JK Cement and City Gold Pipes Pvt. Ltd for supply of limestone. EAC noted the submission of the PP and was of the opinion that PP should only stock limestone till

the time Cement Plant is constructed. EAC also opined that upon establishment of Lakhpat railway siding, PP shall transport the lignite to other industries by rail. EAC also advised PP to carry out plantation on both the sides of the entire Lignite/Limestone road transportation route. PP may deploy mobile tankers along the transportation route. As committed by PP, covered belt conveyor and Silo from the ML area to the proposed extended Naliya railway siding shall be implemented by December 2028.

Regarding water requirement, PP submitted that total water requirement stands at 1325 KLD 50 m³/day shall be sourced from ground, Dewatering water 814 m³/day & Mine pit rain water collection 461 m³/day. Ground water withdrawal permission is under process and application has been made vide application no. 21-4/11717/GJ/MIN/2024, dated 01.04.2024. Permission will be obtained before mining commencement.

On the issue of wildlife conservation, PP stated that Schedule-I species (14 mammals, 08 reptiles & 14 Avifauna) has been observed in the study area and Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been approved by PCCF, Gandhinagar vide letter WLP/C/32/807-809/2024-25 on dated 26.11.2024 Site-Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan (WLCP) has been approved by PCCF, Gandhinagar vide letter WLP/C/32/807-809/2024-25 on 26.11.2024. As per approved WLCP, total budget of Rs. 1520 Lakhs has been allocated for five years. A budget of ₹70.0 lakhs has already been allocated for restoration works in the Guneri Inland Mangrove site, as outlined in the approved Wildlife Conservation Plan. EAC noted the submission of PP and advised to submit the implementation report to Ministry's Regional Office on in Halfy-Yearly Compliance Reports.

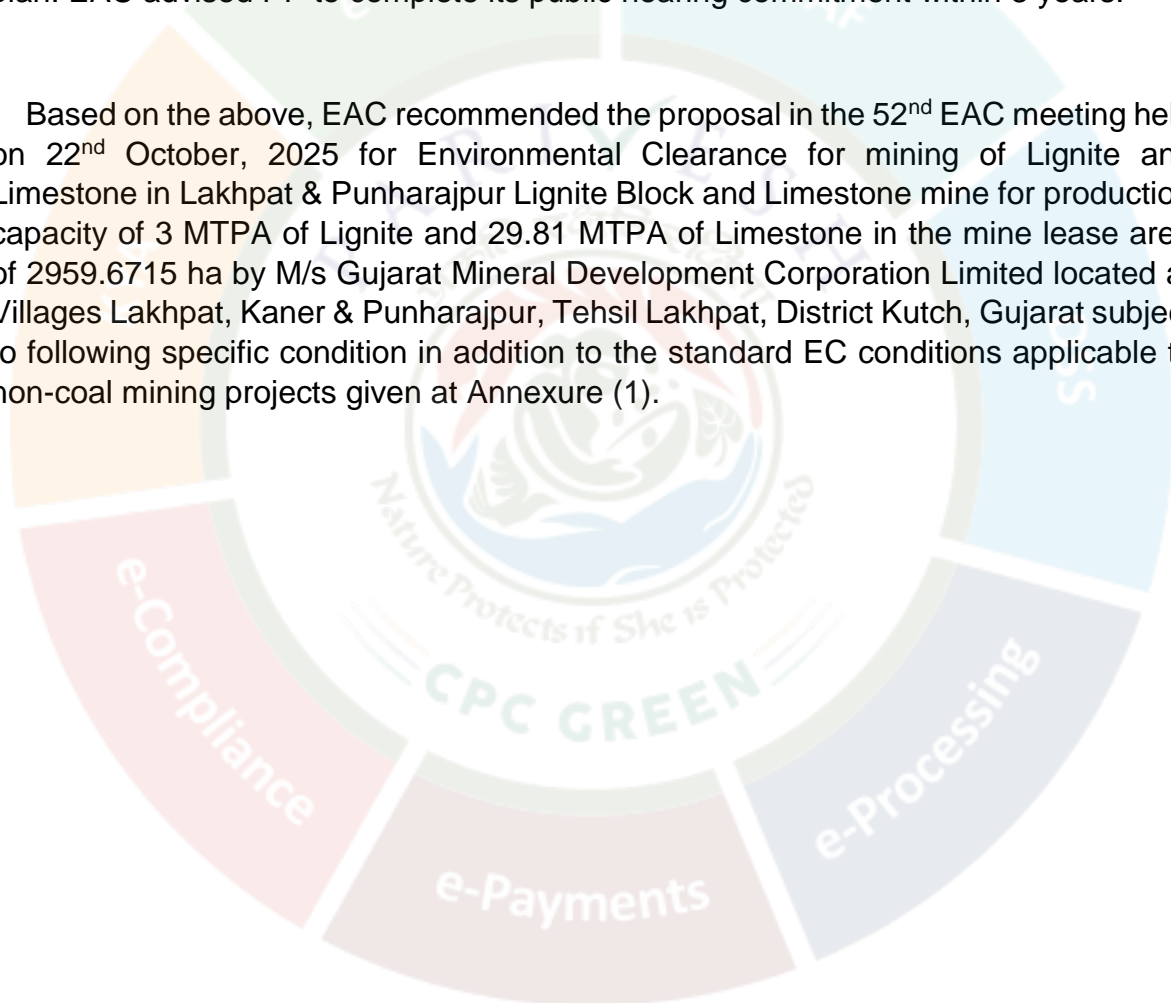
Regarding land acquisition, PP submitted that out of total ML area of 2959.6715 ha, 2647.3565 ha is Govt land and 312.315 ha is private land. Out of 2647.3565 ha Govt. land, 2129.3298 ha has been acquired by M/s GMDC and transfer of remaining 518.0267 ha is under process. PP also added that Govt. land contains Gaucher land of 75.20 ha for which application has been made at the Collector Office, Bhuj, on 25.03.2025 and is under process of approval. With regard to public hearing PP submitted that they will aquire the same within the next 12 months. PP also informed that for the 1st 10 years of mine working, there is no requirement of private land acquisition. EAC noted the submission of PP and stated that PP should restrict the mining activity within the acquired area.

On the issue of green belt development, PP submitted that proposed greenbelt will be developed in 49.84 ha (safety zone) which is about 0.017 % of the total project area. Local and native species will be planted with a density of 2500 trees per hectare. Beside above, plantation will also be carried out on backfilled area (941.74 ha), plantation on Top Soil dump (7.68 ha) and external dump (100.62 ha) and plantation on other areas (Road & Infrastructure 14.06 ha). Total no. of 2,784,850 saplings will be planted and nurtured in 1113.94 hectares in 39 years.

PP reported that baseline data had been collected during March – May 2024. The environmental parameters are within the permissible limits. The committee noted that PP shall install 4 continuous ambient air quality management systems for the said project, 2 each in the core zone and the buffer zone.

Regarding, public hearing, PP submitted that public hearing took place on 28.03.2025. Major issues raised during were related to land acquisition, employment, education, greenbelt development, greenbelt development, water resource management, and biodiversity & ecological protection. The PH was attended by approximately. 1000 nos of people and 37 written representations were received. Committee noted that PP has allocated a budget Rs. 7020.15 lakhs under PH action plan. EAC advised PP to complete its public hearing commitment within 3 years.

Based on the above, EAC recommended the proposal in the 52nd EAC meeting held on 22nd October, 2025 for Environmental Clearance for mining of Lignite and Limestone in Lakhpat & Punharajpur Lignite Block and Limestone mine for production capacity of 3 MTPA of Lignite and 29.81 MTPA of Limestone in the mine lease area of 2959.6715 ha by M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited located at Villages Lakhpat, Kaner & Punharajpur, Tehsil Lakhpat, District Kutch, Gujarat subject to following specific condition in addition to the standard EC conditions applicable to non-coal mining projects given at Annexure (1).



Standard Conditions (Coal Mining):

1. Statutory Conditions:

- i. The Environmental clearance shall be subject to orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Courts, NGT and any other Court of Law, from time to time, and as applicable to the project.
- ii. The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
- iii. Solid/hazardous waste generated in the mines needs to be addressed in accordance to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/Hazardous & Other Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- iv. The maximum production at any given time shall not exceed the limit as prescribed in the EC.
- v. Validity of EC is as per life of the mine mentioned in EC letter or 30 years as per EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments therein.

2. Air Quality Monitoring and Mitigation Measures

- i. Project proponent shall obtain requisite consent from State Pollution Control Board for Lignite (3.0 MTPA) mining.
- ii. Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring of pollutants, namely particulates, SO₂ and NO_x. Location of the stations shall be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive receptors in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- iii. The Ambient Air Quality monitoring in the core zone shall be carried out to ensure the Coal Industry Standards notified vide GSR 742 (E) dated 25th September, 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board. Data on ambient air quality and heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr and other monitoring data shall be regularly reported to the Ministry/Regional Office and to the CPCB/SPCB.
- iv. Effective control measures such as regular water sprinkling/rain gun/ Fog cannon /mist sprinkling etc., shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution with higher level of particulate matter all through the coal transport roads, loading/unloading and transfer points. Fugitive dust emissions from all sources shall be controlled regularly. It shall be ensured that the ambient air quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central/State Pollution Control Board.
- v. Major approach roads shall be black topped and properly maintained.
- vi. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centers.
- vii. PP should Install Wind breaker/shield arrangement along the railway siding for reducing the dust propagation in upwind direction.
- viii. The raw coal shall be stacked properly at earmarked site (s) within stockyards fitted with wind breakers/shields. Adequate measures shall be taken to ensure that the stored mineral does not catch fire

- ix. PP shall submit an action plan for using and developing Renewable Energy for its consumption in its utilities/machinery/equipment instead of using electricity from Grid/generated from Thermal Power Plants. PP shall Install additional solar power generation units

3. Water Quality Monitoring and Mitigation Measures

- i. The effluent discharge (mine waste water, workshop effluent) shall be monitored in terms of the parameters notified under the Water Act, 1974 Coal Industry Standards vide GSR 742 (E) dated 25th September, 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board.
- ii. The monitoring data shall be uploaded on the company's website and displayed at the project site at a suitable location. The circular No.J-20012/1/2006-1A.11 (M) dated 27th May, 2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.
- iii. The project proponent shall not alter major water channels around the site. Appropriate embankment shall be provided along the side of the river/nallah flowing near or adjacent to the mine. The embankment constructed along the river/nallah boundary shall be of suitable dimensions and critical patches shall be strengthened by stone pitching on the river front side, stabilized with plantation so as to withstand the peak water pressure preventing any chance of mine inundation.
- iv. Garland drains (of suitable size, gradient and length) around the critical areas i.e. mine shaft and low lying areas, shall be designed keeping at least 50% safety margin over and above the peak sudden rainfall and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine sites. The sump capacity shall also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material of the surface runoff
- v. The water pumped out from the mine, after siltation, shall be utilized for industrial purpose viz. watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly de-silted particularly before monsoon and maintained properly
- vi. Industrial wastewater from coal handling plant and mine water shall be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules made thereunder, and as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluent. Sewage treatment plant (STP) of adequate capacity shall be installed for treatment of domestic wastewater.
- vii. An integrated surface drainage plan including surface water conservation plan for the area of influence affected by the said mining operations shall be prepared, considering the presence of any river/rivulet/pond/lake etc., with impact of mining activities on it, and implemented by the project proponent. The surface drainage plan and/or any diversion of natural water courses shall be as per the provisions of the approved Mining Plan/ EIA-EMP submitted to this Ministry and the same should be done with due approval of the concerned State/GoI Authority. The construction of embankment to prevent any danger against inrush of surface water into the mine should be as per the approved mining plan and as per the permission of DGMS.
- viii. The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures to ensure reverian/ riparian ecosystem in and around the coal mine upto a distance of 5 km. A reverian /riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan should be prepared and implemented in consultation with the irrigation / water resource department in the state government.

- ix. Industrial effluent and domestic wastewater shall be treated in the Effluent treatment Plant (ETP) and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). After treatment, treated water shall be reused for plantation.

4. Noise and Vibration Monitoring and Prevention

- i. Adequate measures shall be taken for control of noise levels as per Noise Pollution Rules, 2016 in the work environment. Workers engaged in the operation of HEMM and other mining activities shall be provided with appropriate personal protective equipments (PPE). Adequate awareness programme for users to be conducted. Progress in usage of such accessories to be monitored..
- ii. The noise level survey shall be carried out as per the prescribed guidelines to assess noise exposure of the workmen at vulnerable points in the mine premises, and report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry/RO on six-monthly basis.

5. Mining Plan

- i. Project proponent shall obtain star rating as per the guidelines of Ministry of Coal.
- ii. Mining shall be carried out under strict adherence to provisions of the Mines Act 1952 and subordinate legislations made there-under as applicable.
- iii. No change in mining method, calendar programme and scope of work shall be made without obtaining prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
- iv. Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan (including Mine Closure Plan) abiding by mining laws related to coal mining and the relevant circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS).
- v. Environmental conditions of mining place shall be rendered ergonomic and air breathable with adequate illumination in conformance with DGMS standards.
- vi. No mining shall be carried out in case of occurrence of any forest land without obtaining Forest Clearance as per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Act 1980 and also adhering to the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 read with provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927.

6. Land Reclamation

- i. Digital Survey of entire lease hold area/core zone using Satellite Remote Sensing survey shall be carried out at least once in three years for monitoring land use pattern and report in 1:50,000 scale or as notified by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) from time to time shall be submitted to MOEFCC/Regional Office (RO).
- ii. Post-mining land be rendered usable for agricultural/forestry purposes and shall be handed over to the respective State Government, as specified in the Guidelines for Preparation of Mine Closure Plan, issued by the Ministry of Coal dated 27th August, 2009 and subsequent amendments.
- iii. The final mine void depth should preferably be as per the approved Mine Closure Plan, and in case it exceeds 40 m, adequate engineering interventions shall be provided for sustenance of aquatic life therein. The remaining area shall be backfilled and covered with thick and alive top soil. Post-mining land be rendered usable for agricultural/forestry purposes and shall be diverted. Further action will be treated as

specified in the guidelines for Preparation of Mine Closure Plan issued by the Ministry of Coal dated 27th August, 2009 and subsequent amendments.

- iv. The entire excavated area, backfilling, external OB dumping (including top soil) and afforestation plan shall be in conformity with the “during mining”/“post mining” land-use pattern, which is an integral part of the approved Mining Plan and the EIA/EMP submitted to this Ministry. Progressive compliance status vis-a-vis the post mining land use pattern shall be submitted to the MOEFCC/RO.
- v. Further, it may be ensured that as per the time schedule specified in mine closure plan it should remain live till the point of utilization. The topsoil shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only and shall not be kept unutilized. The top soil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation purposes. Active OB dumps shall be stabilized with native grass species to prevent erosion and surface run off. The other overburden dumps shall be vegetated with native flora species. The excavated area shall be backfilled and afforested in line with the approved Mine Closure Plan. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/ Regional Office.
- vi. The project proponent shall make necessary alternative arrangements, if grazing land is involved in core zone, in consultation with the State government to provide alternate areas for livestock grazing, if any. In this context, the project proponent shall implement the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to acquiring grazing land.

7. Public Hearing and Human Health Issues:

- i. Adequate illumination shall be ensured in all mine locations (as per DGMS standards) and monitored.
- ii. The project proponent shall undertake occupational health survey for initial and periodical medical examination of the personnel engaged in the project and maintain records accordingly as per the provisions of the Mines Rules, 1955 and DGMS circulars. Besides regular periodic health check-up, 20% of the personnel identified from workforce engaged in active mining operations shall be subjected to health check-up for occupational diseases and hearing impairment, if any, as amended time to time
- iii. Personnel (including outsourced employees) working in core zone shall wear protective respiratory devices and shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- iv. Skill training as per safety norms specified by DGMS shall be provided to all workmen including the outsourcing employees to ensure high safety standards in mines.
- v. Effective arrangement shall be made to provide and maintain at suitable points conveniently situated, a sufficient supply of drinking water for all the persons employed.
- vi. The project proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in this Ministry's OM No.Z11013/5712014-IA.II (M) dated 29th October, 2014, titled 'Impact of mining activities on habitations-issues related to the mining projects wherein habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area'.
- vii. PP should conduct epidemiology study for analysis of the distribution, patterns and determinants of health and disease conditions in defined populations.

8. Corporate Environment Responsibility:

- i. The company shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved by the Board of Directors. The environmental policy should prescribe for standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms/conditions. The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms/conditions and/or shareholders/stake holders
- ii. A separate Environmental Cell both at the project and company head quarter level, with qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of senior Executive, who will directly to the head of the organization.
- iii. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six-Monthly Compliance Report.

9. Miscellaneous:

- i. The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safeguards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.
- ii. The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
- iii. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly basis.
- iv. The project proponent shall submit six-monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at environment clearance portal.
- v. The project proponent shall submit the environmental statement for each financial year in Form V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and put on the website of the company.
- vi. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the MOEFCC regarding commencement of mining operations.
- vii. The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.
- viii. The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, commitment made during Public Hearing and also that during their presentation to the Expert Appraisal Committee.

- ix. No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
- x. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- xi. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.
- xii. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.
- xiii. The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information/monitoring reports
- xiv. The above conditions shall be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules and any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Courts and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

