

**IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONE
BENCH, CHENNAI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 192 of 2023

IN THE MATTER OF: -

K. Veeraraghavan

.... Applicant

Versus

The Member Secretary, SEIAA and Ors.

.... Respondent

**COUNTER AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF STATE LEVEL
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA)**



Filed by:
G.M. SYED NURULLAH SHERIFF
Senior Standing Counsel
MoEF & Cc.
Mob. No. 9444015330
Counsel for Respondent no. 3

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

O.A. No.192 of 2023 (SZ)

K. Veeraragavan

Vs

State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)

&

State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC)

INDEX

S.No.	Description	Page No.
1.	Reply Affidavit on Behalf of Respondent No III, Responded by the Member Secretary , State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority – Tamil Nadu Third Floor Panagal Maaligai, No.1, Jeenis Road, Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.	1-15
2.	ANNEXURE 1 – R1/R 2 Minutes of 417th SEAC Meeting held on 18.10.2023	16-22
3.	ANNEXURE 2 – R1/R 2 Minutes of 671st SEIAA-TN Meeting held on 07.11.2023	23-25
4.	ANNEXURE 3 – R1/R 2 Minutes of 689th SEIAA-TN Meeting held on 12.01.2024	26-27
5.	ANNEXURE 4 – R1/R 2 Minutes of 444th SEIAA-TN Meeting held on 09.02.2024	28-30

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
O.A. No.192 of 2023 (SZ)

K. Veeraragavan,
Pazhayaseevaram Village & P.O
Walajabad Taluk,
Kanchipuram District - 631606

... APPELLANT

Vs

1. The Joint Chief Controller of Explosives,
A and D Wing, Block 1-8 Shastri Bhavan,
No. 26, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai-600 006.

2. Directorate of geology and mining,
Guindy Industrial Estate, SIDCO Industrial Estate,
Guindy, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu 600032.

3. State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA),
Rep. by its Chairman,
3rd Floor, Panagal Maaligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.
Email: seiaamstn@gmail.com
Phone No. 044-24359973



1115
Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

5. Kanchipuram District Collector Office,

Tiruvannamalai - Kanchipuram Road,
Thaiyar Kullam, Kanchipuram,
Tamil Nadu 631501.

6. The Joint Chief Controller of Explosives,

A and D Wing, Block 1-8 Shastri Bhavan,
No. 26, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600 006.

7. Directorate of Geology and Mining,

rep. by its director
Guindy Institutional Area,
SIDCO Industrial Estate, Guindy,
Tamil Nadu Chennai - 600032,

8. The Chief Manager Power Grid

Corporation of India Limited,
Singanayakanahilli,
Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru - 560064

... RESPONDENTS



Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

COUNTER AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF SEIAA – TAMIL NADU,
THE 3rd RESPONDENT

I, A.R. Rahul Nadh, I.A.S., aged 36 years working as Member Secretary, State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Tamil Nadu (SEIAA-TN) having office at Third Floor, Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet, Chennai – 600015; solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am filing this counter affidavit on behalf of the 3rd Respondent/SEIAA-TN herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and the circumstances of the case from the records available in this office.
2. I deny all the averments and allegations stated in this O.A. No.192 of 2023 (SZ) except those that are specifically admitted hereunder and put the applicant to strict proof of the same.
3. It is respectfully submitted that; the project proponent had applied to State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority – Tamil Nadu (SEIAA-TN) for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) for the Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. K. Kothandan.
4. I respectfully submit that; the proposal was placed in **417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023**. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (parivesh.nic.in).

The SEAC noted the following:

- I. The Project Proponent, Thiru. K. Kothandan has applied for Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram - A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.
- II. The project/activity is covered under Category “B2” of Item 1(a) “Mining

of Minerals Projects” of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

III. Earlier, the proposal was placed in 390th SEAC meeting held on 07.07.2023.

Based on the presentation and documents furnished by the proponent, SEAC observed that,

Based on the KML file uploaded by the proponent and Google imagery, it is ascertained that the proposed mine lease area is surrounded by water tanks and the Palar River is situated at 2km and Palayaseevaram Check Dam is also at a distance of 2km.

Therefore, the SEAC decided to call for additional details as follows;

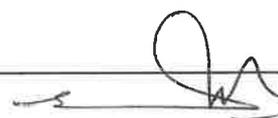
- i. **Since water bodies are situated within 500 m**, the PP shall furnish the scientific studies carried out to assess the hydrogeological condition of the quarry comprehensively and impact of quarrying on the existing water tank, Check dam and River along with spelling out mitigation measures during the course of quarrying for ensuing safe operation, by involving any one of the reputed Research and Academic Institutions - CSIR-Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore, Division of Geotechnical Engineering-IIT-Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, University of Madras – Centre for Environmental Studies, Dept of Geology - Anna University Chennai, and Department of Geology - Periyar University, Salem.
- ii. The proponent shall submit data regarding the depth of Water table observed from the open well within 1km radius from the proposed mine lease area.



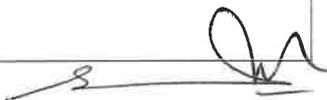
Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeeris Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

Upon the receipt of aforesaid details, further deliberation shall be done.

S. NO	SEAC QUERY	REPLY
1	<p>Since water bodies are situated within 500 m. The PP shall furnish the scientific studies carried out to assess the hydrogeological condition of the quarry comprehensively and impact of quarrying on the existing water tank, check dam and River along with spelling out mitigation measures during the course of quarrying for ensuing safe operation, by involving any one of the reputed Research and Academic Institutions - CSIR-central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore. Division of Geotechnical Engineering – IIT Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, University of Madras - Centre for Environmental Studies, Dept of Geology - Anna University, Chennai and Department of Geology - Periyar University, Salem.</p>	<p>The PP obtained Impact Assessment Report on Hydrogeological conditions of the quarry and surrounding water bodies & resources from the Department of Geology, Periyar University, Salem – 636 011.</p>
2	<p>The proponent shall submit data regarding the depth of water table observed from the open well within 1km radius from the proposed mine lease area.</p>	<p>The depth of the open well varies from 10-15m depth and water level in the open well is 5.2 - 8.4m.</p>

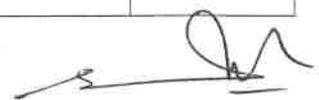


File No	10032/2023	Category	B2
	428339/2023		1(a)
Sl. No	Salient Features of the Proposal		
1.	Name of the Owner/Firm	:	Thiru. K. Kothandan, S/o. Kuppan, No.5, Alamelu Nagar, Old Perungalathur, Chennai District - 600 063.
2.	Type of quarrying (Ordinary Stone/Sand/Granite/Limestone)	:	Rough Stone & Gravel Quarry
3.	S.F Nos. of the quarry site with area break-up	:	225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9(P)
4.	Village in which situated	:	Pazhayaseevaram-A
5.	Taluk in which situated	:	Walajabad
6.	District in which situated	:	Kancheepuram
7.	Extent of quarry (in ha.)	:	3.07.5 Ha
8.	Latitude & Longitude of all corners of the quarry site	:	12°47'19.66"N to 12°47'27.77"N 79°51'58.43"E to 79°52'06.39"E
9.	Topo Sheet No.	:	57 - P/13
10.	Type of mining	:	Opencast Mechanized Mining
11.	Life of Project	:	10 years


Member Secretary

	Lease Period	10 years	
	Mining Plan Period	: 5 years (Two spells)	
12.	Mining Plan Details	As per approved Mining Plan	As modified by SEAC
	Geological Resources m ³ (RoM)	Rough Stone	Rough Stone
		13,42,215 m ³	-
		Gravel	Gravel
		59,654 m ³	-
	Minable Resources m ³ (RoM)	Rough Stone	Rough Stone
		5,22,510m ³	-
		Gravel	Gravel
		46,910 m ³	-
	Annual Peak Production in m ³	Rough Stone	Rough Stone
		71,300m ³	-
		Gravel	Gravel
23,784m ³		-	
Maximum Depth in meters	: 47m BGL		
13.	Depth of water table	: 60m in rainy season & 65m in summer season	
14.	Man Power requirement per day:	: 30 Nos	
15.	Water requirement:	: 1.0 KLD 0.2 KLD	

	1. Drinking & utilized water 2. Dust suppression 3. Green belt	0.5 KLD 0.3 KLD	
16.	Power requirement	: TNEB 2,66,012 Litres of HSD will be used for first five years	
17.	Precise area communication approved by the Assistant Director(i/c), Dept of G&M	: Na.Ka.No.007/Kanimam/2023, dated: 14.03.2023	
18.	Mining Plan approved by Assistant Director(i/c), Dept of Geology & Mining.	: Rc. No. 007/Q3/2023, dated: 30.03.2023	
19.	Department of G&M, Assistant Director(i/c), 500m Cluster Letter	: Rc. No. 007/Q3/2023, dated: 29.03.2023	
20.	VAO Certificate Regarding Structures within 300m Radius	: Letter Dated: 24.03.2023	
21.	Project Cost (excluding EMP cost)	: Rs. 1,46,36,000	
22.	EC Recommendation	: Validity	30 years subject to the following upper limits. Rough Stone Gravel



		:	Max Total RoM in m ³	5,22,510m ³	46,910m ³
		:	Annual Max RoM in m ³	71,300m ³	23,784m ³
		:	Max Depth in mtrs	47m BGL	
23.	EMP cost (in Rs. Lakhs).	:	Capital Cost – Rs. 29,42,500 Recurring Cost – Rs. 25,73,726		
24.	CER cost (in Rs. Lakhs).	:	Rs. 5,00,000		

Based on the reply furnished by the PP, the proposal was again placed in the 417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023. Based on the presentation and documents furnished by the project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the proposal for the grant of Environmental Clearance for the annual peak production capacity of not exceeding **71,300 m³ of rough stone & 23,784 m³ of Gravel by maintaining the ultimate depth of mining up to 47m BGL** and subject to the standard conditions as per the **Annexure I** of 417th SEAC minutes & normal conditions stipulated by MOEF &CC, in addition to the following specific conditions:

- i. The prior Environmental Clearance granted for this mining project shall be valid for the project life including production value as laid down in the mining plan approved and renewed by competent authority, from time to time, subject to **a maximum of thirty years, whichever is earlier, vide MoEF&CC Notification S.O, 1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.**
- ii. **Since the structures are situated within a radial distance of 500 m,** the PP shall carry out the scientific studies **within a period of six months** from the commencement of quarrying operations, to design the controlled blast parameters for reducing the blast-induced ground/air- vibrations and eliminating the fly rock from the blasting operations carried out in the proposed quarry, by involving anyone of these reputed Research and Academic Institution such as CSIR-Central Institute of Mining & Fuel

- Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore, IIT-Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, and Anna University Chennai-CEG Campus. A copy of such scientific study report shall be submitted to the SEIAA, MoEF, TNPCB, AD/Mines-DGM and DMS, Chennai as a part of Environmental Compliance without any deviation.
- iii. The PP shall furnish a Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) for carrying out the blasting operations in securing the safety of the persons living within a radial distance of 500 m (danger zone) to the concerned AD (Mines) at the time of lease execution.
- iv. The PP shall not employ any external agency for carrying out the blasting operation and he shall also install the temporary magazines approved by the concerned licensing authority before the execution of the lease, for storing the authorized explosives & detonators separately in accordance with the Explosive Rules, 2008.
- v. For the safety of the persons employed in the quarry, the PP shall carry out the scientific studies to assess the slope stability of the working benches and existing quarry walls in a hilly terrain within a period of six months from the commencement of mining operations for evaluating the slope stabilization & protective measures at the ultimate pit limits, by involving any one of the reputed Research and Academic Institutions - CSIR-Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore, Division of Geotechnical Engineering-IIT-Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, and Anna University Chennai-CEG Campus. A copy of such scientific study report shall be submitted to the SEIAA, MoEF, TNPCB, AD/Mines-DGM and DMS, Chennai as a part of Environmental Compliance without any deviation.
- vi. As accepted by the Project Proponent the CER cost of Rs. 5 Lakhs and the amount shall be spent for the activities as committed towards Panchayat Union Primary School, Sankarapuram, Palayaseevaaram, Walajah Union, Kancheepuram before obtaining CTO from TNPCB.



5. I respectfully submitted that; the subject was subsequently placed in meeting held on 671st SEIAA meeting held on 07.11.2023. The authority noted that the subject was appraised in the **417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023**. SEAC has furnished its recommendations for granting Environmental Clearance subject to the conditions stated therein.

After detailed discussions, the Authority taking into account the recommendations of SEAC and also the safety aspects and to ensure sustainable, scientific and systematic mining, decided to grant Environmental Clearance for the quantity of 3,22,735m³ of rough stone & 46,910m³ Gravel up to the depth of 47m BGL and the annual peak production should not exceed 71,300m³ of rough stone & 23,784m³ of Gravel. This is also subject to the conditions imposed by SEAC, normal conditions stipulated by MOEF&CC in addition to the following conditions and the conditions in Annexure 'A' of 671st SEIAA minutes.

- a. Keeping in view of MoEF&CC notification S.O.1533(E) dated.14.09.2006 and S.O. 1807(E) dated 12.04.2022, this Environmental Clearance is valid as per the approved mine plan period.
- b. The EC granted is subject to review by District Collector, Mines Dept. and TNPCB on completion of every 5 years and also during the mine plan period, till the project life so as to review the EC conditions and to ensure that they have all been adhered to and implemented.
- c. The project proponent shall submit a Certified Compliance Report obtained from IRO of MoEF&CC to the monitoring, regulatory and other concerned authorities including SEIAA, while seeking a renewal of the mining plan to cover the project life.
- d. The progressive and final mine closure plan including the green belt implementation and environmental norms should be strictly followed as per the EMP and as per the amount committed and approved in EC for EMP.
- e. As per the OM vide F. No. IA3-22/1/2022-IA-III [E- 172624] Dated: 14.06.2022, the Project Proponents are directed to submit the six-monthly compliance on the environmental conditions prescribed in the prior

environmental clearance letter(s) through newly developed compliance module in the PARIVESH Portal from the respective login.

- f. The amount allocated for EMP should be kept in a separate account and both the capital and recurring expenditures should be done year wise for the works identified, approved and as committed. The work & expenditure made under EMP should be elaborated in the bi-annual compliance report submitted and also should be brought to the notice of concerned authorities during inspections.

6. I respectfully submitted that; Subsequently, Environmental Clearance was accorded to the proponent based on the above recommendation made by SEIAA in its 671st meeting held on 07.11.2023 vide Lr. No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.10032/1(a)/EC. No: 6184/2023, dated: 07.11.2023.

7. I respectfully submitted that; Meanwhile, a letter was received from Power Grid vide Letter dated 04.01.2024 received by O/o SEIAA on 06.01.2024 with certain details called for and action to be taken from SEIAA .

8. I respectfully submitted that;Based on the above, the letter was placed in the 689th SEIAA meeting held on 12.01.2024. The Authority noted the following, the letter inter alia states as follows

“.... We request your kind intervention in the matter and arrange to clarify us regarding any such mining permission issued. In case such mining permission is already issued, we request you to kindly consider our plea and cancel such permission so that the national power transmission assets stay protected and don't get affected due to any such blasting / mining activity. A reply clarifying our query would be appreciated.”

Hence, in the view of the above, Authority after detailed deliberation decided that

1. The above complaint received from Power Grid shall be forwarded to SEAC and the same shall be examined and furnish the remarks to SEIAA in order to take further course of action.



Member Secretary

STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Malligai, No.1, Jeeris Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

2. Meanwhile, Member Secretary – SEIAA-TN shall write a letter to Power Grid to convey the following

- i. Regarding the Environmental Clearance accorded to the proponent Thiru. K. Kothandan for Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9(P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.
- ii. The complaint received from the Power Grid has been forwarded to SEAC to assess and examine the concerns raised by Power Grid regarding the safety of Tower No. 440 (D+6) of 400 kV Puducherry – Sunguvarchatram line. Upon the receipt of the remarks from SEAC, further course of action will be taken.
- iii. The above letter shall be copy marked to District Collector and Commissioner, Geology and Mining.

9. I respectfully submitted that; Subsequently, the letter received from Power Grid has been forwarded to SEAC as per the directions given by SEIAA in its 689th meeting held on 12.01.2024 and it was scheduled in the 444th SEAC meeting held on 09.02.2024.

Based on the above, the subject was placed in 444th SEAC meeting held on 09.02.2024 & the remarks of the committee is as follows

- i. The committee carefully examined the letter received from Power Grid vide Letter dated 04.01.2024 received by O/o SEIAA on 06.01.2024 pointing out amendment made in Central Electricity Authority Notification No. CEA-PS-16/1/2021-CEI Division dt 08.07.2023, Clause 67.
- ii. In this case, Environmental Clearance has already been issued vide Lr. No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.10032/1(a)/EC. No: 6184/2023, dated: 07.11.2023.



Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeeris Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

The SEAC has examined the Conditions stipulated in the prior EC granted to the PP as given below:

- a) Under Standard Condition, Part – B – General Condition, point no. 16 (Pg. No. 37 of EC)

“...16) The Environmental Clearance does not absolve the applicant/proponent of his obligation/requirement to obtain other statutory and administrative clearances from other statutory and administrative authorities.”

- b) Further, it has been clearly stated in Conditions imposed by SEAC, point no. 44 (Pg. No. 25 of EC)

“...44) That the grant of this E.C. is issued from the environmental angle only, and does not absolve the project proponent from the other statutory obligations prescribed under any other law or any other instrument in force. The sole and complete responsibility, to comply with the conditions laid down in all other laws for the time-being in force, rests with the project proponent.”

Based on the above, Committee decided that no further action is required to be taken at this stage. However, the SEIAA may communicate to the concerned District Collector where the lease is executed and the Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Chennai for taking the appropriate actions with a copy marked to the office of the Power Grid.

10. I respectfully submitted that, the remarks given by SEAC in its 444th SEAC meeting held on 09.02.2024 is yet to be placed in SEIAA & will be placed in the forthcoming SEIAA meeting.



Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeemis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

Therefore, humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to record and pass orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem to fit and proper in light of the facts and circumstances of this case and thus render justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on
this 04th day of March 2024 &
Signed his name in my presence



THIRD RESPONDENT

BEFORE ME

MEMBER SECRETARY

SEIAA-TN

Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

15/15

Member Secretary
STATE LEVEL MANAGEMENT OF RISK AND
EMERGENCY RESPONSE
UNIT - YTISSONIA

Agenda No: 417-28

(File No: 10032/2023)

Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. K. Kothandan - For Environmental Clearance. (SIA/TN/MIN/428339/2023, Dated: 06.05.2023)

The proposal was placed in 417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (parivesh.nic.in).

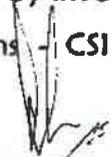
The SEAC noted the following:

1. The Project Proponent, Thiru. K. Kothandan has applied for Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Minerals Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.
3. Earlier, the proposal was placed in 390th SEAC meeting held on 07.07.2023. Based on the presentation and documents furnished by the proponent, SEAC observed that
 1. Based on the KML file uploaded by the proponent and Google imagery, it is ascertained that the proposed mine lease area is surrounded by water tanks and the Palar River is situated at 2km and Palayaseevaram Check Dam is also at a distance of 2km.

Therefore, the SEAC decided to call for additional details as follows

1. Since water bodies are situated within 500 m, the PP shall furnish the scientific studies carried out to assess the hydrogeological condition of the quarry comprehensively and impact of quarrying on the existing water tank, Check dam and River along with spelling out mitigation measures during the course of quarrying for ensuing safe operation, by involving any one of the reputed Research and Academic Institutions - CSIR-Central


MEMBER SECRETARY
SEAC -TN


CHAIRMAN
SEAC- TN

7

Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore. Division of Geotechnical Engineering-IIT-Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, University of Madras – Centre for Environmental Studies, Dept of Geology - Anna University Chennai, and Department of Geology - Periyar University, Salem.

2. The proponent shall submit data regarding the depth of Water table observed from the open well within 1km radius from the proposed mine lease area.

Upon the receipt of aforesaid details, further deliberation shall be done.

S. NO	SEAC QUERY	REPLY
1	Since water bodies are situated within 500 m. The PP shall furnish the scientific studies carried out to assess the hydrogeological condition of the quarry comprehensively and impact of quarrying on the existing water tank, check dam and River along with spelling out mitigation measures during the course of quarrying for ensuing safe operation, by involving any one of the reputed Research and Academic Institutions - CSIR-central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore. Division of Geotechnical Engineering – IIT Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, University of Madras - Centre for Environmental Studies, Dept of Geology - Anna University,	The PP obtained Impact Assessment Report on Hydrogeological conditions of the quarry and surrounding water bodies & resources from the Department of Geology, Periyar University, Salem – 636 011.


MEMBER SECRETARY
SEAC -TN


CHAIRMAN
SEAC- TN

	Chennai and Department of Geology - Periyar University, Salem.	
2	The proponent shall submit data regarding the depth of water table observed from the open well within 1km radius from the proposed mine lease area.	The depth of the open well varies from 10-15m depth and water level in the open well is 5.2 - 8.4m.

File No	10032/2023		Category	B2
	428339/2023			1(a)
Sl. No	Salient Features of the Proposal			
1.	Name of the Owner/Firm	:	Thiru. K. Kothandan, S/o. Kuppan, No.5, Alamelu Nagar, Old Perungalathur, Chennai District - 600 063.	
2.	Type of quarrying (Ordinary Stone/Sand/Granite/Limestone)	:	Rough Stone & Gravel Quarry	
3.	S.F Nos. of the quarry site with area break-up	:	225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9(P)	
4.	Village in which situated	:	Pazhayaseevaram-A	
5.	Taluk in which situated	:	Walajabad	
6.	District in which situated	:	Kancheepuram	
7.	Extent of quarry (in ha.)	:	3.07.5 Ha	
8.	Latitude & Longitude of all corners of the quarry site	:	12°47'19.66"N to 12°47'27.77"N 79°51'58.43"E to 79°52'06.39"E	
9.	Topo Sheet No.	:	57 - P/13	

10.	Type of mining	:	Opencast Mechanized Mining		
11.	Life of Project	:	10 years		
	Lease Period	:	10 years		
	Mining Plan Period	:	5 years (Two spells)		
12.	Mining Plan Details	:	As per approved Mining Plan	As modified by SEAC	
	Geological Resources m ³ (RoM)	:	Rough Stone	Rough Stone	
			13,42,215 m ³	-	
			Gravel	Gravel	
			59,654 m ³	-	
	Mirable Resources m ³ (RoM)	:	Rough Stone	Rough Stone	
			5,22,510m ³	-	
			Gravel	Gravel	
			46,910 m ³	-	
	Annual Peak Production in m ³	:	Rough Stone	Rough Stone	
			71,300m ³	-	
			Gravel	Gravel	
			23,784m ³	-	
	Maximum Depth in meters	:	47m BGL		
	13.	Depth of water table	:	60m in rainy season & 65m in summer season	
	14.	Man Power requirement per day:	:	30 Nos	
15.	Water requirement:	:	1.0 KLD		
	4. Drinking & utilized water	:	0.2 KLD		
	5. Dust suppression	:	0.5 KLD		
	6. Green belt	:	0.3 KLD		
16.	Power requirement	:	TNEB		

		2,66,012 Litres of HSD will be used for first five years			
17.	Precise area communication approved by the Assistant Director(i/c), Dept of G&M	:	Na.Ka.No.007/Kanimam/2023, dated: 14.03.2023		
18.	Mining Plan approved by Assistant Director(i/c), Dept of Geology & Mining.	:	Rc.No. 007/Q3/2023, dated: 30.03.2023		
19.	Department of G&M, Assistant Director(i/c), 500m Cluster Letter	:	Rc.No. 007/Q3/2023, dated: 29.03.2023		
20.	VAO Certificate Regarding Structures within 300m Radius	:	Letter Dated: 24.03.2023		
21.	Project Cost (excluding EMP cost)	:	Rs. 1,46,36,000		
22.	EC Recommendation	:	Validity	30 years subject to the following upper limits.	
				Rough Stone	Gravel
		:	Max Total RoM in m ³	5,22,510m ³	46,910m ³
		:	Annual Max RoM in m ³	71,300m ³	23,784m ³
:	Max Depth in mtrs	47m BGL			
23.	EMP cost (in Rs. Lakhs).	:	Capital Cost – Rs. 29,42,500 Recurring Cost – Rs. 25,73,726		
24.	CER cost (in Rs. Lakhs).	:	Rs. 5,00,000		

Based on the reply furnished by the PP, the proposal was again placed in the 417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023. Based on the presentation and documents furnished by the project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the proposal for the grant of Environmental Clearance for the annual peak production capacity of not


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SEAC -TN


CHAIRMAN
SEAC- TN

exceeding 71,300 m³ of Rough stone & 23,784 m³ of Gravel by maintaining the ultimate depth of mining up to 47m BGL and subject to the standard conditions as per the Annexure 1 of this minutes & normal conditions stipulated by MOEF &CC, in addition to the following specific conditions:

1. The prior Environmental Clearance granted for this mining project shall be valid for the project life including production value as laid down in the mining plan approved and renewed by competent authority, from time to time, subject to a maximum of thirty years, whichever is earlier, vide MoEF&CC Notification S.O, 1807(E) dated 12.04.2022.
2. Since the structures are situated within a radial distance of 500 m, the PP shall carry out the scientific studies within a period of six months from the commencement of quarrying operations, to design the controlled blast parameters for reducing the blast-induced ground/air- vibrations and eliminating the fly rock from the blasting operations carried out in the proposed quarry, by involving anyone of these reputed Research and Academic Institution such as CSIR-Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore, IIT-Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, and Anna University Chennai-CEG Campus. A copy of such scientific study report shall be submitted to the SEIAA, MoEF, TNPCB, AD/Mines-DGM and DMS, Chennai as a part of Environmental Compliance without any deviation.
3. The PP shall furnish a Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) for carrying out the blasting operations in securing the safety of the persons living within a radial distance of 500 m (danger zone) to the concerned AD (Mines) at the time of lease execution.
4. The PP shall not employ any external agency for carrying out the blasting operation and he shall also install the temporary magazines approved by the concerned licensing authority before the execution of the lease, for storing the authorized explosives & detonators separately in accordance with the Explosive Rules, 2008.
5. For the safety of the persons employed in the quarry, the PP shall carry out the scientific studies to assess the slope stability of the working benches and existing


MEMBER SECRETARY
SEAC -TN


CHAIRMAN
SEAC- TN

quarry walls in a hilly terrain within a period of six months from the commencement of mining operations for evaluating the slope stabilization & protective measures at the ultimate pit limits, by involving any one of the reputed Research and Academic Institutions - CSIR-Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research / Dhanbad, NIRM/Bangalore, Division of Geotechnical Engineering-IIT-Madras, NIT-Dept of Mining Engg, Surathkal, and Anna University Chennai-CEG Campus. A copy of such scientific study report shall be submitted to the SEIAA, MoEF, TNPCB, AD/Mines-DGM and DMS, Chennai as a part of Environmental Compliance without any deviation.

6. As accepted by the Project Proponent the CER cost of Rs. 5 Lakhs and the amount shall be spent for the activities as committed towards Panchayat Union Primary School, Sankarapuram, Palayaseevaaram, Walajah Union, Kancheepuram before obtaining CTO from TNPCB.

Agenda No: 417- 29

(File No: 10461/2023)

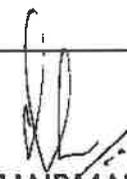
Proposed Earth quarry lease over an extent of 2.00.0Ha at SF.No.12(Part) of Siruvalai Bit-I Village, Madurai North Taluk, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu by M/s.C.M.K Projects Private Limited - For Environmental Clearance. (SIA/TN/MIN/447262/2023, Dated: 06.10.2023)

The proposal was placed in the 417th meeting of SEAC held on 18.10.2023. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are available in the website (parivesh.nic.in). The SEAC noted the following:

1. The Project Proponent, M/s.C.M.K Projects Private Limited has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Earth quarry lease over an extent of 2.00.0Ha at SF.No. 12(Part) of Siruvalai Bit-I Village, Madurai North Taluk, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The proposed quarry/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

File No	10461/2023	Category	B2
	SIA/TN/MIN/447262/2023.		


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Annexure -2

MINUTES

671st MEETING

**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMIL NADU**

Date: 07.11.2023

			<p>alternations and the same shall be included in the final EIA report.</p> <p>6. The PP shall study in detail about impact of the proposed mining activity on the water bodies and natural flow of surface and ground water and the same shall be included in the final EIA report.</p> <p>7. The PP shall study in detail about Possibilities of water contamination and impact on aquatic ecosystem health.</p> <p>8. The PP shall study the impact on Invasive Alien Species (IAP).</p>
28.	Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. K. Kothandan - For Environmental Clearance. (SIA/TN/MIN/428339/2023)	10032	<p>The authority noted that the subject was appraised in the 417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023. SEAC has furnished its recommendations for granting Environmental Clearance subject to the conditions stated therein.</p> <p>After detailed discussions, the Authority taking into account the recommendations of SEAC and also the safety aspects and to ensure sustainable, scientific and systematic mining, decided to grant Environmental Clearance for the quantity of 3,22,735m³ of rough stone & 46,910m³ Gravel up to the depth of 47m BGL and the annual peak production should not exceed 71,300m³ of Rough stone & 23,784m³ of Gravel. This is also subject to the conditions imposed by SEAC, normal conditions stipulated by MOEF&CC in addition to the following conditions and the conditions in Annexure 'A' of this minutes.</p> <p>1. Keeping in view of MoEF&CC notification S.O.1533(E) dated.14.09.2006 and S.O.</p>


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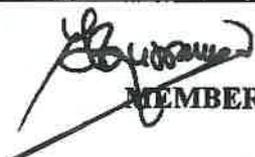

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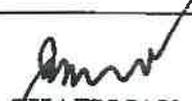

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1807(E) dated 12.04.2022, this Environmental Clearance is valid as per the approved mine plan period.

2. The EC granted is subject to review by District Collector, Mines Dept. and TNPCB on completion of every 5 years and also during the mine plan period, till the project life so as to review the EC conditions and to ensure that they have all been adhered to and implemented.
3. The project proponent shall submit a Certified Compliance Report obtained from IRO of MoEF&CC to the monitoring, regulatory and other concerned authorities including SEIAA, while seeking a renewal of the mining plan to cover the project life.
4. The progressive and final mine closure plan including the green belt implementation and environmental norms should be strictly followed as per the EMP and as per the amount committed and approved in EC for EMP.
5. As per the OM vide F. No. IA3-22/1/2022-IA-III [E- 172624] Dated: 14.06.2022, the Project Proponents are directed to submit the six-monthly compliance on the environmental conditions prescribed in the prior environmental clearance letter(s) through newly developed compliance module in the PARIVESH Portal from the respective login.
6. The amount allocated for EMP should be kept in a separate account and both the capital and


MEMBER SECRETARY


MEMBER


CHAIRMAN
SEIAA-TN

			recurring expenditures should be done year wise for the works identified, approved and as committed. The work & expenditure made under EMP should be elaborated in the bi-annual compliance report submitted and also should be brought to the notice of concerned authorities during inspections.
29.	Proposed Earth quarry lease over an extent of 2.00.0Ha at SF.No.12(Part) of Siruvalai Bit-I Village, Madurai North Taluk, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu by M/s.C.M.K Projects Private Limited - For Environmental Clearance. (SIA/TN/MIN/447262/2023)	10461	<p>The authority noted that the subject was appraised in the 417th SEAC meeting held on 18.10.2023. SEAC has furnished its recommendations for granting Environmental Clearance subject to the conditions stated therein.</p> <p>After detailed discussions, the Authority taking into account the recommendations of SEAC and also the safety aspects and to ensure sustainable, scientific and systematic mining, decided to grant Environmental Clearance for the quantity of 20,000m³ of earth up to the depth of 1m and the annual peak production should not exceed 20,000m³. This is also subject to the conditions imposed by SEAC, normal conditions stipulated by MOEF&CC in addition to the following conditions and the conditions in Annexure 'A' of this minutes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keeping in view of MoEF&CC's notification S.O.1533(E) dated.14.09.2006 and S.O. 1807(E) dated 12.04.2022, this Environmental Clearance is valid as per the approved mine plan period. 2. The EC granted is subject to review by District Collector, Mines Dept. and TNPCB on completion of every 3 months and also during the mine plan period, till the project



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Annexure - 3

MINUTES

689th MEETING

**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMIL NADU**

Date: 12.01.2024

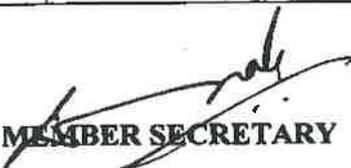
			Upon the receipt of the above details, further deliberation shall be done
41.	Proposed Environmental clearance Roughstone & Gravel quarry over an extent of 3.04.5 ha of Patta land in S.F.Nos.225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu by M/s. Thiru. K. Kothandan (SIA/TN/MIN/428339/2023)	10032	<p>The Authority noted the following</p> <p>The Proponent Thiru. K. Kothandan had earlier applied for Environmental Clearance for Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9(P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.</p> <p>Subsequently, Environmental Clearance was accorded to the proponent vide Lr. No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.10032/1(a)/EC. No: 6184/2023, dated: 07.11.2023.</p> <p>Meanwhile, a complaint was received from Power Grid vide Letter dated 04.01.2024 received by O/o SEIAA on 06.01.2024 with certain details called for and action to be taken from SEIAA which inter alia states as below</p> <p><i>".... We request your kind intervention in the matter and arrange to clarify us regarding any such mining permission issued. In case such mining permission is already issued, we request you to kindly consider our plea and cancel such permission so that the national power transmission assets stay protected and don't get affected due to any such blasting / mining activity. A reply clarifying our query would be appreciated."</i></p> <p>Hence, in the view of the above, Authority after detailed deliberation decided that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The above complaint received from Power


MEMBER SECRETARY


MEMBER


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SEIAA-TN

			<p>Grid shall be forwarded to SEAC and the same shall be examined and furnish the remarks to SEIAA in order to take further course of action.</p> <p>2. Meanwhile, Member Secretary – SEIAA-TN shall write a letter to Power Grid to convey the following</p> <p>(i) Regarding the Environmental Clearance accorded to the proponent Thiru. K. Kothandan for Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9(P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.</p> <p>(ii) The complaint received from the Power Grid has been forwarded to SEAC to assess and examine the concerns raised by Power Grid regarding the safety of Tower No. 440 (D+6) of 400 kV Puducherry – Sunguvarchatram line. Upon the receipt of the remarks from SEAC, further course of action will be taken.</p> <p>(iii) The above letter shall be copy marked to District Collector and Commissioner, Geology and Mining.</p>
42.	Proposed Environmental clearance for Limestone quarry over an extent of 0.28.5 ha of Patta land in	6409	The Authority noted that the subject was earlier appraised in the 348 th SEAC meeting held on 19.01.2023 and SEAC decided to reiterate its



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CHAIRMAN
SEIAA-TN

- and sub-drains in accordance with the contour levels of the proposed project considering the flood occurred in the year 2015 and also considering the water bodies around the proposed project site & the surrounding development. The storm water drain shall be designed in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Urban Development.
25. The layout plan shall be furnished for the greenbelt area earmarked with GPS coordinates by the project proponent on the periphery of the site and the same shall be submitted for CMDA/DTCP approval. The green belt width should be at least 3m wide all along the boundaries of the project site. The green belt area should not be less than 15% of the total land area of the project.
 26. The proponent shall furnish the specific plan for the plantation.
 27. Cumulative Impacts of the Project considering with other Infrastructure developments and industrial parks in the surrounding environment within 5 km & 10 km radius shall be furnished.
 28. A detailed post-COVID health management plan for construction workers as per ICMR and MHA or the State Govt. guideline may be followed and report shall be furnished.
 29. The project proponent shall furnish detailed baseline monitoring data with prediction parameters for modeling for the ground water, emission, noise and traffic.
 30. As per the MoEF&CC Office Memorandum F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated: 30.09.2020 and 20.10.2020, the proponent shall furnish the detailed EMP.

Agenda No: 444 - 17

(File No: 10032/2023)

Environmental Clearance accorded to Thiru. K. Kothandan for the Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 31, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu – for remarks based on Power Grid letter.

The proposal was placed in 444th SEAC meeting held on 09.02.2024. The details of the


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CHAIRMAN
SEAC- TN

project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (parivesh.nic.in).

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The Project Proponent, Thiru. K. Kothandan had been accorded Environmental Clearance vide Lr. No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.10032/1(a)/EC. No: 6184/2023, dated: 07.11.2023 for the Proposed Rough Stone and gravel quarry lease area over an extent of Extent 3.07.5 Ha at S.F. No. 225/1, 2, 8B, 8C, 8D, 241/3H, 3I, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 242/9 (P) of Pazhayaseevaram-A Village, Walajabad Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Minerals Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.
3. Meanwhile, a complaint was received from Power Grid vide Letter dated 04.01.2024 received by O/o SEIAA on 06.01.2024 with certain details called for and action to be taken from SEIAA which inter alia states as below

".... We request your kind intervention in the matter and arrange to clarify us regarding any such mining permission issued. In case such mining permission is already issued, we request you to kindly consider our plea and cancel such permission so that the national power transmission assets stay protected and don't get affected due to any such blasting / mining activity. A reply clarifying our query would be appreciated."

Hence, in the view of the above, Authority after detailed deliberation decided that

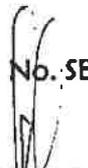
- (i) The above complaint received from Power Grid shall be forwarded to SEAC and the same shall be examined and furnish the remarks to SEIAA in order to take further course of action.

Based on the above, the subject was placed in 444th SEAC meeting held on 09.02.2024.

1. The committee carefully examined the letter received from Power Grid vide Letter dated 04.01.2024 received by O/o SEIAA on 06.01.2024 pointing out amendment made in Central Electricity Authority Notification No. CEA-PS-16/1/2021-CEI Division dt 08.07.2023, Clause 67.
2. In this case, Environmental Clearance has already been issued vide Lr. No. SEIAA-


MEMBER SECRETARY
SEAC -TN

87


CHAIRMAN
SEAC- TN

TN/F.No.10032/1(a)/EC. No: 6184/2023, dated: 07.11.2023.

The SEAC has examined the Conditions stipulated in the prior EC granted to the PP as given below:

(a) Under Standard Condition, Part – B – General Condition, point no. 16 (Pg. No. 37 of EC)

"...16) The Environmental Clearance does not absolve the applicant/proponent of his obligation/requirement to obtain other statutory and administrative clearances from other statutory and administrative authorities."

(b) Further, it has been clearly stated in Conditions imposed by SEAC, point no. 44 (Pg. No. 25 of EC)

"...44) That the grant of this E.C. is issued from the environmental angle only, and does not absolve the project proponent from the other statutory obligations prescribed under any other law or any other instrument in force. The sole and complete responsibility, to comply with the conditions laid down in all other laws for the time-being in force, rests with the project proponent."

Based on the above, Committee decided that no further action is required to be taken at this stage. However, the SEIAA may communicate to the concerned District Collector where the lease is executed and the Commissioner of Geology & Mining, Chennai for taking the appropriate actions with a copy marked to the office of the Power Grid.

Agenda No: 444- 18

(File No: 10090/2023)

Proposed Rough stone quarry lease over an extent of 3.35.0Ha at SF. No. 588(Part) of Alur Village, Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. S. Prasanth Kumar - For Environmental Clearance.

(SIA/TN/MIN/431139/2023, Dated: 27.05.2023)

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The Project Proponent, Thiru. S. Prasanth Kumar has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Rough stone quarry lease over an extent of 3.35.0Ha at SF. No. 588(Part) of Alur Village, Hosur Taluk, Krishnagiri District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The proposed quarry/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item (a)


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SEAC -TN

88

CHAIRMAN
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