

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

**APPEAL NO. 25 of 2023**

**IN THE MATTER OF: -**

**Alex Paul**

**.... Applicant**

**Versus**

**The Member Secretary, SEIAA and anr.**

**.... Respondent**

**ANNEXURES 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. 1**

streams, canals etc., and also does not come under any notified/declared protected zones in terms of the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of Madras High Court. On receipt of the aforesaid details, the proposal will be considered for further deliberations.

**Agenda No. 364 - 19**

**(File No. 9625/2022)**

**Proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 4.52.0 Ha in S.F.No. 531/1B (Part) of Ponmanai A Village, Thiruvattar Taluk, Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. Alex Paul for Environmental Clearance. (SIA/TN/MIN/408810/2022, dated: 01.12.2022)**

The proposal was placed in this 364<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAC held on 23.03.2023. The project proponent gave detailed presentation. 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, Thiru. Alex Paul has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 4.52.0 Ha in S.F.No. 531/1B (Part) of Ponmanai A Village, Thiruvattar Taluk, Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Mineral Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.
3. As per mining plan, the lease period is 5 years. The mining plan is for 5 years & production should not exceed 4,43,015cu.m. of Rough Stone and 30,958cu.m of Gravel. The annual peak production 94,810cu.m. of Rough Stone & 14,118 cu.m of Gravel. The maximum depth of mining would be 116m (1m Gravel + 115m Rough stone [96m AGL + 20m BGL]).

Now, the proposal was placed in this 364<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 23.03.2023. During the presentation, the SEAC had observed the following:

1. The proposed quarry site is located in an ecologically sensitive area of Western Ghats and is surrounded by thick vegetation.

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEAC - TN

2. Further, the proposed mine lease area is in the top of a hill which appears to be a watershed which will in turn have implications on the contribution of surface runoff.
3. The proposed site is at a distance of approximately 2.75km from Kanniyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. There is a National Highway located at a distance of 443 m from the foothill of the proposed mine lease area which falls within 500 m danger zone as stipulated by the DGMS for the blasting operations and it could possibly pose a threat to the vehicles plying on the Highway.
5. The quarrying operation may cause depletion of fertile topsoil which will lead to environmental degradation to flora and fauna in and around the area.

Based on the documents and presentation made by the proponent, SEAC after detailed discussions decided not to recommend this project proposal considering all the above factors.

Agenda No. 364 - 20

(File No. 9638/2022)

Proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 2.61.0 Ha in S.F.No. 277 (Part) of Chettikurichi Village, Kayathar Taluk, Thoothukudi District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. S.K.P. Murugaen for Environmental Clearance. (SIA/TN/MIN/407962/2022, dated: 25.11.2022)

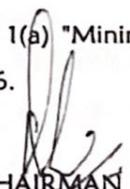
The proposal was placed in this 364<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAC held on 23.03.2023. The project proponent gave detailed presentation. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are available in the website (parivesh.nic.in).

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The project proponent, Thiru. S.K.P. Murugaen has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 2.61.0 Ha in S.F.No. 277 (Part) of Chettikurichi Village, Kayathar Taluk, Thoothukudi District, Tamil Nadu
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Mineral Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

  
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CHAIRMAN  
SEAC - TN

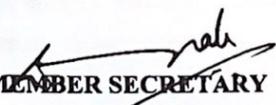
			<p>(v) The impact of mining on "drawdown" effect.</p> <p>(vi) The impact of mining on soil stability, movement of sand to form new sand dunes.</p> <p>In the view of the above, SEIAA accepts the decision of SEAC and SEAC shall examine the above-mentioned points raised by Authority in addition to the queries raised by SEAC and shall furnish its recommendations to SEIAA upon the receipt of reply to be furnished by the proponent. SEIAA decided to request Member Secretary, SEIAA-TN to communicate the minutes to the project proponent.</p>
19.	Proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 4.52.0 Ha in S.F.No. 531/1B (Part) of Ponmanai A Village, Thiruvattar Taluk, Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. Alex Paul for Environmental Clearance.	9625	<p>The proposal is placed in this 364<sup>th</sup> SEAC Meeting held on 23.03.2023.</p> <p>During the presentation, the SEAC had observed the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The proposed quarry site is located in an ecologically sensitive area of Western Ghats and is surrounded by thick vegetation.</li> <li>2. Further, the proposed mine lease area is in the top of a hill which appears to be a watershed which will in turn have implications on the contribution of surface runoff.</li> <li>3. The proposed site is at a distance of approximately 2.75km from Kanniyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary.</li> <li>4. There is a National Highway located at a distance of 443 m from the foothill of the proposed mine lease area which falls within 500 m danger zone as stipulated by the DGMS for the blasting operations and it could possibly</li> </ol>

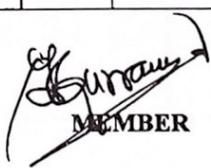
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			<p>pose a threat to the vehicles plying on the Highway.</p> <p>5. <b>The quarrying operation may cause depletion of fertile topsoil which will lead to environmental degradation to flora and fauna in and around the area.</b></p> <p>Based on the documents and presentation made by the proponent, SEAC after detailed discussions decided not to recommend this project proposal considering all the above factors.</p> <p>In the view of the above, SEIAA accepts the decision of SEAC and decided to request Member Secretary, SEIAA-TN to issue rejection letter to proponent as per the 364<sup>th</sup> SEAC minutes.</p>
20.	Proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 2.61.0 Ha in S.F.No. 277 (Part) of Chettikurichi Village, Kayathar Taluk, Thoothukudi District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. S.K.P. Murugaen for Environmental Clearance	9638	<p>The authority noted that the subject was appraised in 364<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting held on 23.03.2023.</p> <p>Based on the presentation and documents furnished by the project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the proposal for the grant of Environmental Clearance. <b>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 restricted quantity of 3,45,440 m<sup>3</sup> of Rough stone and 1,27,008 m<sup>3</sup> of Gravel for the depth of mining up to 36m BGL as per the mine plan approved by the Department of Geology &amp; Mining. This is also subject to the standard conditions as per Annexure - (I) of SEAC minutes, other normal conditions stipulated by MOEF&amp;CC &amp; all other specific conditions as recommended by SEAC in addition to</b></p>

  
MEMBER SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN



**THIRU.DEEPAK S. BILGI, I.F.S**  
**MEMBER SECRETARY**

**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT**  
**ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMILNADU**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Panagal Maaligai,  
No.1, Jeenis Road, Saidapet  
Chennai-600015  
Phone No.044-24359973  
Fax No. 044-24359975

**Letter No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9625/2022 dated:25.05.2023.**

To

Thiru. Alex Paul,  
Koottalil House,  
Kunnaekal Post, Muvattupuzha,  
Ernakulam District,  
Kerala State - 682 316.

Sir,

Sub: SEIAA-TN – Proposal seeking Environmental Clearance for proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 4.52.0 Ha in S.F.No. 531/1B (Part) of Ponmanai A Village, Thiruvattar Taluk, Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru. Alex Paul - under 1(a) Mining projects of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 – not recommended - Application Closed and Recorded – Regarding

Ref: 1. Online Proposal No. SIA/TN/MIN/ 408810/2022, dated: 01.12.2022.  
2. Minutes of the 364<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting held on 23.03.2023.  
3. Minutes of the 611<sup>th</sup> SEIAA meeting held on 12.04.2023.

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I invite your kind attention to the reference cited above, wherein the application received from Thiru. Alex Paul for Environmental Clearance for proposed Rough Stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 4.52.0 Ha in S.F.No. 531/1B (Part) of Ponmanai A Village, Thiruvattar Taluk, Kanniyakumari District, Tamil Nadu.

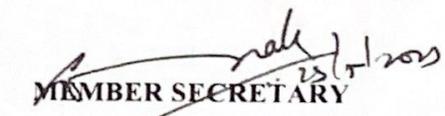
The proposal was placed for appraisal in the 364<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 23.03.2023. During the presentation, the SEAC had observed the following:

1. The proposed quarry site is located in an ecologically sensitive area of Western Ghats and is surrounded by thick vegetation.
2. Further, the proposed mine lease area is in the top of a hill which appears to be a watershed which will in turn have implications on the contribution of surface runoff.
3. The proposed site is at a distance of approximately 2.75km from Kanniyakumari Wildlife Sanctuary.
4. There is a National Highway located at a distance of 443 m from the foothill of the proposed mine lease area which falls within 500 m danger zone as stipulated by the DGMS for the blasting operations and it could possibly pose a threat to the vehicles plying on the Highway.
5. **The quarrying operation may cause depletion of fertile topsoil which will lead to environmental degradation to flora and fauna in and around the area.**

Based on the documents and presentation made by the proponent, **SEAC after detailed discussions decided not to recommend this project proposal considering all the above factors.**

Subsequently, the proposal was placed in the 611<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting held on 12.04.2023. In the view of the above, SEIAA accepts the decision of SEAC and decided to request Member Secretary, SEIAA-TN to issue rejection letter to proponent as per the 364<sup>th</sup> SEAC minutes.

Hence, the above-mentioned file is **closed and recorded accordingly.**

  
**MEMBER SECRETARY**  
SEIAA-TN