

**REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED BY THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SOUTHERN ZONE) TO INSPECT THE AREA OF THE UNIT OF M/s.SALEM MINES AND AGGREGATES, KUNNAVAKKAM, NADUVAKARAI VILLAGE, THIRUKAZHUKUNDRAM TALUK, CHENGALPATTU DISTRICT**

Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in its order in Original Application No.40 of 2019 dated 17/12/2019 has constituted a Joint Committee consisting of (1) District Collector, Chengalpattu, (2) Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, (3) Mining and Geology Department and (4) Naduvakarai Panchayat to inspect the area of the unit of M/s.Salem Mines and Aggregates, Kunnavakkam, Naduvakarai Village, Thirukazhukundram Taluk, Chengalpattu District to submit a factual and action, if any, to be taken report and also assess environmental compensation, if any damage has been caused to environment on account of the alleged illegal operation of the unit by the third respondent within a period of one month to this tribunal by email @ ngtszfilng@gmail.com. The committee is also at liberty to ascertain as to whether similar damage has been caused to the neighbouring houses on account of the mining operation by the third respondent and also noise and air pollution level. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board will be the nodal agency for coordination.

In due compliance of the orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal , the Joint Committee carried out the inspection of the said area of the unit of M/s.Salem Mines, Kunnavakkam, Naduvakarai Village, Thirukazhukundram Taluk, Chengalpattu District on 23/01/2020 and submitted the report.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in its order dated 25.02.2020 has stated that

1. "Though it is stated in the report that the noise level was exceeding the norms within the premises of the unit, they did not mention the remedial measures to be taken to suppress the same.
2. Further they did not mentions as to whether any test has been conducted to ascertain the vibration level in the neighboring areas namely, in the residential area on account of the operation of the unit at its optimum level so as to have any effect of creating cracks in the building. Such a test also was expected to be conducted by the committee before coming to the conclusion that there was no effect on the walls of the house in that area on account of the operation of the unit
3. The committee is directed to carry out these exercises as well and submit a further report to this Tribunal within a period of one month"

In due compliance to the above said order, it is submitted that since TamilNadu Pollution Control Board does not have the facility to conduct vibration test, the same was out sourced to M/s. Glens Innovations Labs Pvt Ltd, Arumbakkam, Chennai-600 106 which is an NABL Accredited Laboratory to carry out the above said exercise.

M/s. Glens Innovations Labs Pvt Ltd Arumbakkam Chennai-600 106 has conducted the Vibration test on 10.08.2020 in the presence of the officials of the TamilNadu Pollution Control Board following the methodology stipulated in the ISO 4866:2010 using Vibration meter in the residential area (Complainant house) before and during blasting carried out by the unit of M/s Salem Mines and Aggregates and submitted the test report. (Copy enclosed). The test report reveals that the background vibration (as peak particle velocity) before the blasting and during the blasting at the complainant house is 4.65mm/sec (Q: 25Hz) and

6.08mm/sec (@>25Hz) respectively which is below the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) 1997 Acceptance Criteria (Permissible PPV) of 25mm/sec, which indicates that there is no effect of creating cracks in the building/walls of the house in that area on account of the operation of the unit.

Photographs taken during the conduct of Vibration test on 10.08.2020



Furthermore, it is submitted that the unit is using Non-EL (Non - Electrical) detonators which will have less NVH level (Noise Vibration and Harshness level) compared to other explosives like Electrical, ANFO (Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil) detonator.

### **Recommendations of the Committee**

1. The unit shall comply with all the conditions prescribed in the Environmental Clearance accorded to the unit by DEIAA, Chengalpattu District.
2. The unit shall comply with the conditions stipulated in the mining lease agreement obtained from the District Collector, Chengalpattu District.
3. To minimize the noise/vibration level during the blasting activity, the unit shall ensure that they use only low capacity Non-EL (Non - Electrical) detonators which will have less NVH level (Noise Vibration and Harshness level) compared to other explosives like Electrical, ANFO (Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil) detonator.
4. The unit shall give due announcement to the public before carrying out blasting operations.
5. The unit shall ensure that the vibration is well within the permissible limit that it will not cause any hindrance to the public, environment and property.

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10/8/20  
Block Development Officer,  
Thirukazhukundram

*[Signature]*  
10/8/20  
Assistant Director,  
Geology and Mining,  
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*D. Vasu*  
10/8/20  
District Environmental Engineer,  
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