

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONE,  
CHENNAI IN COMPLIANCE TO HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED MAY 21, 2021.**

**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.115 of 2021(SZ)**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Hon'ble NGT on its own motion  
Suo Motu based on the News Item Published in  
The Times of India, E-Paper dated 08.05.2021,  
Under the Caption "Andhra Pradesh: 10 feared dead,  
Several injured in blast at quarry in Kadapa". ... Applicants

**WITH**

The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh,  
Secretariat, Guntur & Others. ... Respondents

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**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**  
**A.P. Pollution Control Board**  
**Regional Office:**  
**YSR Dist, KADAPA**

**REPORT OF THE APPCB IN THE MATTER OF O A. NO. 115/2021, SUO MOTU REGISTERED BY THE HON'BLE NGT ON THE BASIS OF THE NEWSPAPER REPORT PUBLISHED IN THE TIMES OF INDIA, E-PAPER DATED 08.05.2021 UNDER THE CAPTION "ANDHRA PRADESH: 10 FEARED DEAD, SEVERAL INJURED IN BLAST AT QUARRY IN KADAPA" VERSUS THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVT. OF ANDHRA PRADESH & OTHERS, SUBMITTED TO HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI IN COMPLIANCE TO THE HON'BLE NGT ORDER DATED MAY 21, 2021.**

It is to submit that an Original Application No. 115/2021 (SZ) Suo Motu registered by the Hon'ble NGT on the basis of the newspaper report published in the times of india, e-paper dated 08.05.2021 under the caption "Andhra Pradesh: 10 feared dead, several injured in blast at quarry in Kadapa" versus the Chief Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh & Others.

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai, has passed an order dated 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2021 directing that, the State of Andhra Pradesh and Pollution Control Board to file their independent report regarding the action taken on the basis of the Committee said to have been appointed by the Government in this regard along with the copy of the report said to have been filed by the Committee appointed by the Government before the next date.

In this connection, it is submitted that, an accidental explosion took place in the Barytes mine of Smt. C. Kasturi Bai, at Sy. No. 1 & 133 of Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District, on 08.05.2021, causing death of 10 workers.

The officials of the Regional Office, APPCB, Kadapa, visited the site of accident in Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District, on 09.05.2021 and interacted with the local villagers. By the time Board officials reached the site, the dead bodies had been evacuated, however, tiny burned remains of the deceased were found scattered in the mine area. It was informed by Sri. Venkatarami Reddy of Akkivaripalli village, that a huge explosion occurred on 08.05.2021 at around 9:10 AM in the mine area, during unloading and mishandling of explosives and detonators from vehicle, resulting in death of 10 persons working at the mine. The photographs of accident site are enclosed as Annexure - II.

The Regional Office, APPCB, Kadapa, requested the Dy. Director Mines & Geology, Department of Mines & Geology, Kadapa, vide Lr. dated 10.05.2021, not to issue permission to mining units till the units obtain Environmental Clearance and valid Consent for Operation (CFO) of the Board and further requested to furnish a detailed report of the mine at Mamillapalle (V) Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist., where the accident took place. Copy of the letter to Dy. Director Mines & Geology, Kadapa is enclosed as Annexure - III

The representative of Department of Mines & Geology, Kadapa, informed that, Smt. C. Kasturi Bai was granted mining lease for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Ha. in Sy. No. 1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District on 11.04.2001 and the lease was executed on 24.11.2001 for a period of 20 years.

It was informed by the Department of Mines & Geology, Kadapa, that, the Govt. of AP, have issued G.O. Rt. No. 69 dt. 09.05.2021 to constitute an enquiry committee and accordingly, the District Collector, YSR District, vide proceedings dt. 10.05.2021, constituted an enquiry committee to conduct detailed investigation/enquiry for submitting the report. Copy of the G.O. and the Dist. Collector proceedings are enclosed as Annexure - IV.

The enquiry committee members are:

- (i) The Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR Dist.,
- (ii) Addl. Supdt. Of Police, OSD
- (iii) Sub-Collector, Rajampet,
- (iv) Dy. Director Mines & Geology (FAC), YSR District,
- (v) DD Mines Safety and
- (vi) Dy. Chief Controller of Explosives, Visakhapatnam

It was informed that, the Deputy Director of Mines & Geology, Kadapa, suspended the quarry lease operations of Smt. C. Kasturi Bai for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Hectares in Sy.No: 1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District, under Rule 7 (A) (vi) of APMMC Rules, 1966, Vide Proceeding No. 1891/Q1/2020 Dated: 18.05.2021. Copy of the order is enclosed as Annexure-V.

The Regional Office, APPCB, Kadapa, submitted report dated 27.05.2021, to the Zonal Office, Kurnool, to take action against the Barytes mine of Smt. C. Kasturi Bai, Sy. No. 1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District, for operating the mine without Environmental Clearance, CFE/CFO of the Board.

The Zonal Office, APPCB, Kurnool, issued Closure Order dt. 29.05.2021, to the Barytes Mine of Smt. C. Kasturi Bai, Sy. No. 1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District, for operating the mining unit without Environmental Clearance and Consents of the Board. Further, the Zonal Office, Kurnool, also requested the Asst. Director of Mines & Geology, Kadapa, Vide Lr. Dt. 29.05.2021, not to issue work permit to the Barytes Mine of Smt. C. Kasturi Bai. Copy of the Closure Order is enclosed as Annexure - VI.

Submitted.



ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER  
A.P. Pollution Control Board  
Regional Office:  
YSR Dist, KADAPA

**Item No.9:**

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

**Original Application No.115 of 2021 (SZ)**

(Through Video Conference)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion  
Suo Motu based on the News Item Published in  
The Times of India, E-Paper dated 08.05.2021,  
Under the Caption "Andhra Pradesh: 10 feared dead,  
Several injured in blast at quarry in Kadapa".

...Applicant(s)

***Versus***

The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Andhra Pradesh,  
Secretariat Guntur and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

**Date of hearing: 21.05.2021.**

**CORAM:**

**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. RAMAKRISHNAN, JUDICIAL MEMBER**

**HON'BLE DR. K. SATYAGOPAL, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s): Suo Motu by Court.

For Respondent(s): Ms. Madhuri Donti Reddy for R1 to R8 and  
R9

**ORDER**

1. The above case has Suo Motu registered by this Tribunal on the basis of the newspaper report published in The Times of India, E-paper dated 08.05.2021 under the caption "Andhra Pradesh: 10 feared dead, several injured in blast at quarry in Kadapa" it is alleged in the newspaper report that the tragic

incident occurred in a blast at quarry in Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh on Saturday and at least 10 workers appear to be died and several others sustained injuries in the incident. It is alleged in the newspaper report that the blasting was done in violation of the conditions imposed and quarrying was also being carried out in that area in unscientific manner and in excess of the permission granted by over exploiting the natural resources. It appears that some case has been registered by the police in respect of the incident.

2. The explosion happened while unloading large quantities of gelatine sticks from a vehicle in the factory area, which has resulted in thick smoke merging from that area near the Mamillapalli village. It is also alleged in the report that the quarrying owner was not having necessary permission or other authorisation for using such explosives as well. On going to the allegations in the newspaper report, we are satisfied that there arises a substantial question of environment which requires interference of this Tribunal. So the matter is admitted.
3. On going through the allegations, we feel it is necessary to implead the Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh and also the

Andhra Pradesh State Environment Impact Assessment Authority as additional respondents 9 and 10 respectively.

4. Ms. Madhuri Donti Reddy represented respondents 1 to 8 and additional 9. Issue notice to the respondent by e-mail as well as registered post with acknowledgment due along with newspaper report and the list of proceedings with amended cause title.
5. The Registry is also directed to serve a copy of the proceedings to the standing Counsel appearing for the State of Andhra Pradesh through e-mail, if it is available, so as to enable her to file alert the Government Department to file their statement without delay.
6. The Learned Counsel appearing for the State of Andhra Pradesh submitted that in respect of the incident, some Committee has been appointed by the State of Andhra Pradesh and they conducted inquiry and some action has been taken against the persons and to whom the mining license was granted and who are responsible for the same. It is not known as to whether the action was based on any violations of environment clearance and whether any environmental compensation has been assessed as normally the Committee appointed by the Department will only go into the question of excess mining and violation of mining license

and take action for cancelling the license and recover some royalty and penalty provided under the Mines And Minerals (Development And Regulation) Act, 1957 and the respective Mine and Mineral (Concession) Rules, 2016. They will not go into the question of assessment of environmental compensation caused on account of excess mining and over exploitation of natural resources as has been directed by this Tribunal. So under such circumstances, we feel it necessary to appoint Joint Committee consists of 1) Senior Officer from Andhra Pradesh State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, 2) A senior officer from the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Chennai, 3) A Senior officer from Pollution Control Board as deputed by the Chairman, 4) the District Collector, Kadapa District and 5) the Assistant Director of Mines and Geology of the respective area where the incident occurred to inspect the area in question to submit a factual as well as action taken report, if there is any violation found.

7. The Committee is directed to go into the question as to whether the persons who are doing the quarrying work are having all necessary clearances, permissions and licenses as required whether any excess mining is done than the permission granted and the area permitted whether there are any violations committed by him in respect of any condition

imposed in the clearances and permission granted and what is the nature of damage caused to the environment on account of over exploitation of natural resources committed by such persons and assess the nature of damage and also the environmental compensation to be recovered from such persons including the compensation payable to the injured and the deceased person on account of their over exploitation and violations committed. The Committee is also directed to ascertain as to whether apart from this quarry, is there any other quarry situated in that area and whether there were any violations committed by those quarry owners by over exploiting the natural resources than permitted, if so, what is the mechanism that is being adopted by the regulators to supervise these aspects. If there is any violation found by any other quarry in that district, then the Committee is also directed to submit a report regarding the same as well. The SEIAA, Andhra Pradesh will be the Nodal agency for coordination and providing necessary logistic for this purpose.

8. The Committee is directed to submit the report to this Tribunal on or before 09.07.2021 by e-filing in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of

Image PDF along with necessary hardcopies to be produced as per rules.

9. In the meantime, the State of Andhra Pradesh and Pollution Control Board are also directed to file their independent report regarding the action taken on the basis of the Committee said to have been appointed by the Government in this regard along with the copy of the report said to have been filed by the Committee appointed by the Government before the next date.
10. The Registry is directed to communicate this order to the members of the Committee by e-mail immediately along with the newspaper report and list of proceedings with the amended cause title apart from sending the same to official respondents so as to enable them to comply with the directions of filing the report as well as independent response.
11. For appearance of parties and filing independent response for consideration of report, post on 09.07.2021.

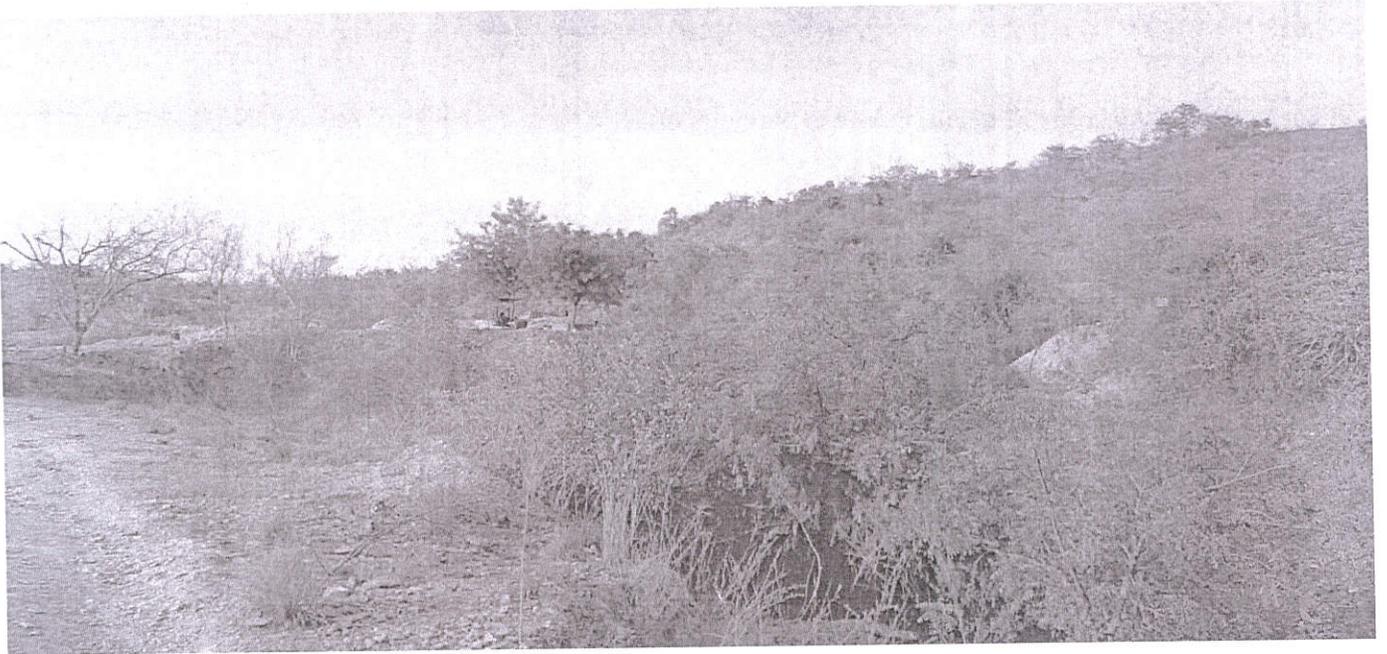
.....J.M.  
(Justice K. Ramakrishnan)

.....E.M.  
(Shri. Dr. K. Satyagopal)

O.A. No.115/2021(SZ)  
21<sup>st</sup> May, 2021. (AM).

Photographs of accident site at Barytes mine of Smt. C. Kasturi Bai, Sy. No. 1 & 133,  
Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District.







ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ కాలుష్య నియంత్రణ మండలి

ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
REGIONAL OFFICE :: KADAPA

D.No.: 1/2277, 2nd Floor, Rajiv Park Road, A.P. Housing Board Colony, Kadapa  
YSR Dist- 516 003

K. Javeed Basha  
Environmental Engineer

e-mail: rokdp-ee1@appcb.gov.in

Lr.No. CFE/CFO/PCB/RO-KDP/2021- 40

Dt. 10.05.2021

To  
The Deputy Director/ Asst. Director,  
Department of Mines and Geology,  
Kadapa, YSR District.

Sir,

**Sub:** APPCB-RO-KADAPA- Mining projects operating in YSR District without statutory clearances EC/CFE/CFO of the Board – Action Requested – Reg.

**Ref:** News item appeared in Eenadu daily dt. 10.05.2021, regarding mining operations without obtaining EC/CFE/CFO of the Board.

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Adverting to the reference cited above, it is to inform that, a news item appeared in Eenadu daily dt. 10.05.2021, regarding mining units being operated, extracting huge quantities of minerals, in violation of the Environmental Laws by not obtaining EC/CFE/CFO of the Board and also not renewing the Consent orders after its expiry. The news item also reported about the accident that took place at Mamillapalle (V) Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist., resulting in death of 10 persons during handling of explosive material.

In this regard, it is requested to insist upon the mining units to obtain EC/CFE/CFO of the Board and the renewal of consent orders of the Board, as per Laws in Vogue by using your good offices as and when the unit holder approaches for permits.

In view of the above, the Deputy Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Kadapa, YSR District, is requested not to allow the mining activity by the mining units and not to issue permits to the units till the mine operator obtains Environmental Clearance and valid Consent for Operation (CFO) of the Board.

Hence your kind co-operation is solicited in this regard, to make them under Law abiders. Further, it is also requested to furnish the details of the mine at Mamillapalle (V) Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist., where the accident took place, resulting in death of 10 persons and a detailed report of the incident, for further course of action.

Yours faithfully,

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER

Copy submitted to the Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Zonal Office, Kurnool, for information and necessary action



GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
ABSTRACT

Mines & Minerals - Explosion occurred in the Quarry Lease area held by C.Nageswar Reddy, GPA holder of original lessee Smt.C.Kasturi Bai for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Ha in Sy.Nos.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District caused death of ten (10) persons - Immediate relief measure in the form of exgratia to the next kin & kith of deceased and constitution of an enquiry Committee - Orders - Issued.

=====

INDUSTRIES & COMMERCE (MINES.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.69

Date.09.05.2021

Read:

D12  
From the Collector & District Magistrate, YSR District, Lr.No.D5/853/2020, dt.08.05.2021 along with enclosures.

\*\*\*\*

ORDER:

15/5/21  
In his letter read above, the Collector & District Magistrate, YSR District has furnished a Preliminary Report with regarding an explosion which occurred in the Quarry Lease area held by Sri Chilekampalli Nageswar Reddy, S/o Seshireddy, R/o Chenchaiharipalli(V), B.Mattam(M), YSR District who is GPA holder for the last 10 years of its original mine owner Smt.C.Kasturibai, for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Ha in Sy.Nos.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli(V), Kalasapadu(M), YSR District granted for a period of 20 years vide G.O.Ms.No.224, Ind & Com (M.II) Dept, dt.11.04.2001 and the lease executed on 24.11.2001 is in force up to 01.11.2021. It was informed that a heavy blast occurred at Konda Gangammathalli Mines of the subject area at 9.10 AM on 08.05.2021 while unloading the blasting material i.e. Gelatin sticks transported from Vemula causing the death of ten (10) persons and injuring a few in the Q.L. area.

2. The preliminary report is based on the combined Inspection Notes, dt.08.05.2021 of ADM&G(RVS), Kadapa, ADM&G, Kadapa and DDM&G, Kadapa which revealed that no permission was obtained for possession of explosives (detonators) by the GPA holder Sri C.Nageswar Reddy and the incident occurred due to negligence of Q.L. holder. A case was registered vide Cr.No.28/2021 U/s 304 (ii) IPC, Sec 3, 5 & 6 of Explosives Substances Act in Kalasapadu PS against the accused and investigation took up by SDPO, Mydukur. Earlier on conducting surprise raids of Q.L. by the M&G officials on 16.10.2019, 18.10.2019 & 25.08.2020 many lapses were found committed by the lease holder for which a SCN was issued to Q.L. holder by the DDM&G who replied on dt.30.12.2020 that/he is responsible for conducting mining operation and also responsible for anything if happened in the Mine in future but has not rectified the lapses.

3. The District Collector, YSR District while enclosing the relevant reports of Superintendent of Police & ADM&G, Kadapa and Tahsildars, Kalasapadu, Porumamilla, Badvel, Vemula & Proddatur has therefore requested and recommended to Government to sanction exgratia of Rs.10 Lakhs to next kin & kith of each deceased apart from other compensations to which they are entitled as per law/Government Schemes.

4. Government, after careful examination of the matter, hereby grant exgratia of Rs.10 Lakhs to next kin & kith of each of the deceased and Rs.5.00 Lakhs to the injured in this accident as per the list furnished by District Collector, YSR District as an immediate relief and the expenditure shall be incurred from the DMF funds available in the District. The District Collector, YSR District shall take immediate action to disburse the amount and report compliance. This immediate relief will be in addition to the compensation received by affected persons under any other provision, such as, Compensation Act 1923, etc.

(PTO)

:: 2 ::

5. Government further, hereby, constitute an enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of the Joint Collector(Revenue), YSR District along with one Member from each Department i.e., from 1) Mines & Geology Dept., 2) Revenue Dept., 3) Police Dept., 4) Dept of Mines safety and 5) Explosive Dept. for conduct of detailed enquiry in the matter. The Director of Mines & Geology and District Collector, YSR District shall ensure that the members of the enquiry committee are nominated and made available to Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR District, immediately. The scope of enquiry shall cover all aspects of the accident along with suggested measures to prevent such accidents in future and *inter alia* include, reasons for the accident, persons/agencies responsible for the accident, persons/agencies responsible for the irregularities/lapses, penal actions proposed against them, issue of compensation to the victims of the accident, suggestions/measures to prevent such accidents in future. The Enquiry Committee shall submit its report to Government in the matter within 5 days.

6. The Director of Mines & Geology and the District Collector, YSR District shall take necessary further action in the matter immediately.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

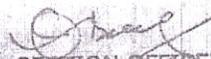
GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
The Director of Mines & Geology, A.P.Vijayawada.  
The Collector & District Magistrate, YSR District.

Copy to:

The DDG, DGMS, South Central Zone, Room No. 704, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, CGO Towers, Old Praga Tools Premises, Kavadi guda, Secunderabad - 500080.  
The Joint Chief Controller of Explosives, A & D Wing, Block 1-8, Second Floor, Shastri Bhavan, 26 Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600006.  
The Dy.Chief Controller of Explosives, D. No. 7-20-13, Kiriampudi Layout, Visakhapatnam - 530017.  
The Superintendent of Police, YSR District.  
The Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR District.  
The Assistant Director of Mines & Geology, Kadapa.  
The OSD to Hon'ble Minister (PR&RD and M&G) for information.  
The P.S. to Pri.Secy to Govt, Ind & Com (Mines) Dept, A.P. Secretariat.  
SF/SC.

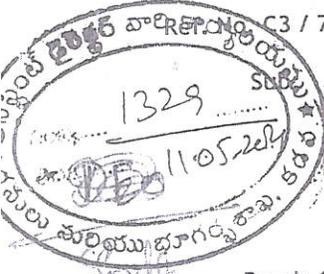
//FORWARDED : BY ORDER//

  
SECTION OFFICER

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, Y.S.R DISTRICT.  
PRESENT: SRI C. HARI KIRAN, I.A.S.,  
^^^

C3 / 76 / M / 2021

Dated: 10.05.2021.



Mines & Minerals - Explosion occurred in the Quarry Lease area held by Sri C.Nageswar Reddy, GPA holder of original lessee Smt. C.Kasturi Bai for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Ha in Sy.Nos.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District caused death of ten (10) persons - Constitution of an enquiry Committee - Orders - Issued.

- Read:-1. G.O.RT.No. 69, dated 09.05.2021, Govt. of A.P., Industries & Commerce (Mines. III) Department.  
2. This Office reference C3/76/M/2021, dated: 10.05.2021.  
3. Nominee details received from respective departments.  
4. Prcd's No. 3890189/D12-1/2020 of Director, Mines & Geology, Ibrahimpattam, Vijayawada, dated: 10.05.2021.

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ORDER :-

In the reference 1<sup>st</sup> read above, Government has informed that an explosion was occurred in the Quarry Lease area held by Sri Chilekampalli Nageswar Reddy, S/o Seshireddy, R/o Chenchaiharipalli Village, B.Mattam Mandal, YSR District who is GPA holder for the last 10 years of its original mine owner Smt. C. Kasturibai, for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Ha in Sy.Nos.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli Village, Kalasapadu Mandal, YSR District granted for a period of 20 years vide G.O.Ms.No.224, Ind & Com (M.II) Dept, dt.11.04.2001 and the lease executed on 24.11.2001 is in force up to 01.11.2021. It was informed that a heavy blast occurred at Konda Gangammathalli Mines of the subject area at 9.10 AM on 08.05.2021 while unloading the blasting material i.e., Gelatin sticks transported from Vemula causing the death of ten (10) persons and injuring a few in the Q.L. area.

After careful examination of the matter, the Government have ordered to constitute an enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of the Joint Collector(Revenue), YSR District along with one Member from each Department i.e., from 1) Mines & Geology Dept., 2) Revenue Dept., 3) Police Dept., 4) Dept of Mines safety and 5) Explosive Dept.

Accordingly, the Committee is hereby constituted with the following members:-

| Sl.No. | Name of the Department | Name of the Committee Member | Designation of the Member                                  | Phone No.  |
|--------|------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------|
| 1      | Revenue                | Smt. M. Gowthami,<br>I.A.S., | Chairman &<br>Joint Collector<br>(RB & R), YSR<br>District | 9849904110 |
| 2      | Police                 | Sri Deva Prasad              | Addl.<br>Superintendent<br>of Police, OSD                  | 9121100502 |
| 3      | Revenue                | Sri Ketan Garg,<br>I.A.S.,   | Sub - Collector,<br>Rajampet                               | 9849904114 |
| 4      | Mines &<br>Geology     | Sri M. Balaji Naik           | DD, Mines &<br>Geology(FAC),<br>YSR Kadapa                 | 9440817819 |
| 5      | Mines safety           | Sri Yohan Yejerla            | DD, Mines<br>Safety, Nellore                               | 9926192341 |
| 6      | Explosives             | Sri B. Ravi Kumar            | Dy. Chief<br>Controller of<br>Explosives,<br>Visakhapatnam | 9990280707 |

The above Committee shall conduct detailed investigation / enquiry as per the term of reference as mentioned in the reference 4<sup>th</sup> read above.

Sd/- C. Hari Kiran  
Collector & District Magistrate  
Y.S.R. District.

//t.c.b.o.//

*S. Ramakrishna*  
For Collector (10.5.21)

To

The Members of the Committee.

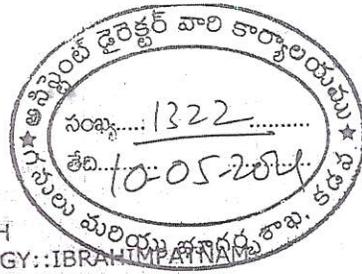
Copy to the Superintendent of Police, YSR District, Kadapa.

Copy to the Director of Mines & Geology, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada.

Copy to the C.C. to Collector & District Magistrate / Joint Collector (RB & R) and District Revenue Officer.

Copy submitted to the P.L. Secretary to Govt., Industries & Commerce (Mines & Geology) Department, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi for favour of information.

- 16 -



GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY: IBRAHIMPATNAM  
[PRESENT: V.G. VENKATA REDDY, DIRECTOR]

Proceedings No. 3890189/D12-1/2020,

Date: 10.05.2021

Sub: Mines & Minerals - Department of Mines & Geology - Enquiry Committee constituted regarding Explosion occurred in the quarry lease area held by Sri C. Nageswar Reddy, GPA holder of original lessee Smt. C. Kasturi Bai for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Ha in Sy. Nos 1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR District - Members nominated - Orders - Issued - Regarding

Ref: G.O.Rt.No. 69, Ind. & Com. (Mines.III) Dept. dated 09.05.2021  
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**ORDER:**

Through the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited above, the GoAP has constituted an enquiry committee under the Chairmanship of the Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR District along with one Member of each Department i.e., from Mines & Geology Dept., Revenue Dept., Police Dept., Dept. of Mines Safety and Explosive Dept., for conduct of detailed enquiry in the matter.

The Constitution of the committee is as follows,

- Sdlt*  
*9/10/2021*
- The Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR Kadapa District as Chairperson.
  - Representative from the Police Department in the cadre of DSP as nominated by the Superintendent of Police, YSR Kadapa District as member.
  - DDMS, Nellore as member.
  - Representative from the Explosives Department as nominated by the Joint Chief Controller of Explosives, Chennai as member.
  - Sri M. Balaji Naik, DDM&G(fac), YSR Kadapa District as Member.

In this connection the above committee is requested to conduct thorough investigation / enquiry with the following Terms of Reference:

- The enquiry shall cover all aspects of the accident
- Identify the Reasons for the accident & persons/agencies responsible for the accident
- Identify the persons/agencies responsible irregularities/lapses
- Penal actions proposed against the persons/agencies responsible for explosion.
- Issue of compensation to the victims of the accident
- Suggestions/measures to prevent such accidents in the future.
- Recommendations of the committee if any.

The nominated officers are hereby requested to report to the Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR Kadapa district with immediate effect. The Committee is requested to submit report within 5 days as ordered by Government.

Encl: As above.

Sd/- V.G. Venkata Reddy  
Director of Mines & Geology

// ATTESTED//

*V.G. Venkata Reddy*  
Joint Director of Mines & Geology

To

The Joint Collector (Revenue), YSR Kadapa District.

The Joint Chief Controller of Explosives, A & D Wing, Block 1-8, Second Floor, Shastri Bhavan, 26 Haddows Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600006 with a request to nominate an officer as member in the enquiry committee immediately.

- 17 -

The DDG, Mines Safety, South Central Zone, Room No. 704, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, CGO Towers, Old Praga Tools Premises, Kavadiguda, Secunderabad - 500080 with a request to nominate Dy. Director Mines Safety Nellore as a member.

Copy to the DGM&S, Podalakur Rd, Opp. S.P. Bunglow, Dargamitta, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh 524003

The Dy. Director of Mines and Geology, Kadapa.

Copy to the Asst. Director of Mines and Geology, Kadapa for information and necessary action.

Copy to the Superintendent of Police, Kadapa for favour of information and necessary action.

Copy to the District Collector and Magistrate, YSR District, Kadapa for favour of information.

Copy submitted to the Pri. Secretary to Govt., Industries & Commerce (Mines & Geology) Department, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi for favour of information.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

Proceedings of the Dy. Director of Mines and Geology, KADAPA, Y.S.R.District.  
[Present: Sri. M. Balaji Naiak, M.Sc., Deputy Director {FAC} ]

Proceedings No.1891/Q1/2020

Dated :18 -05-2021.

Sub:- Mines & Quarries -Quarry Lease for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Hectares in Sy.No.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli Village, Kalasapadu Mandal, YSR District held by Smt C.Kasturi Bai - Certain breaches committed by the Lease holder- Show Cause Notice Issued- Not rectified- Suspended the quarry operations - Orders - Issued.

Ref: - 1) Lr.No.3423/M1/2002, dated: 15-10-2020 from the ADM&G, Kadapa  
2) This office Show cause Notice No.\_1891/Q1-SCN/2020, dated: 21-10-2020.  
3) Postal Acknowledgement received by this office on 28-10-2020.  
4) Lr dated: 09-11-2020 from Smt C. Kasuri Bai.

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ORDER:

Through the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, the Asst.Director of Mines & Geology, Kadapa informed that the quarry lease area held by Smt C.Kasturi Bai for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Hectares in Sy.No.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli Village, Kalasapadu Mandal, YSR District has been inspected by the technical staff of O/o.Asst.Director of Mines & Geology, (RVS), Kadapa and this office technical staff on 25-08-2020 and noticed that the lessee has committed the following violations against the APMMC Rules, 1966 and recommended for suspension of quarry operations immediately.

1. The lessee is not commencing quarry operations in accordance with approved scheme of mining.
2. Lessee is conducting quarry operations and produced thousands of tons Barytes without E.C and CFO which is breach to Section of Environmental Protection Act, 1986 and Section 25/26 of Water (prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Section 21 of Air prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
3. The lessee is using explosives and conducting blasting without explosives permission obtained from the competent authority which is breach to Rule 107 of Explosives Rules, 2008.
4. The lessee not provided separate in-let and out-let for entry and exit of workmen and the workmen are using crane buckets for enter and exit in the shafts which is highly dangerous condition.
5. Out of (06) shafts developed in the lease area, the lessee constructed protection for (03) shafts only and for (03) shafts not constructed protection wall.
6. Ventilation system proposed in approved scheme of mining was not provided by the lessee.

Accordingly, through the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, this office has issued a show cause notice to the lessee for the rectification of the above breaches within (15) days from the date of receipt of the notice. Further through the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited the applicant has acknowledged the receipt of the Show-Cause Notice and the same was received by this office on 28-10-2020.

Through the reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited, the lessee has informed that she has undergone an open heart surgery and also very recently met with an accident. Due to ill-health she was not in a position to respond the notice and requested this office for grant of further 30 days time to submit detailed explanation to the show cause notice. But, she failed to submit detailed explanation to this office till to date. Hence, it is construed that the lessee did not have any valid explanation to submit to the Show-cause Notice.

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-2-

In View of the above circumstances, the quarry lease operations of Smt C.Kasturi Bai for Barytes over an extent of 30.696 Hectares in Sy.No.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli Village, Kalasapadu Mandal, YSR District is hereby suspended under Rule 7(A) (Vi) of A.P.M.M.C Rules, 1966. Hence, she is directed not to enter into the leased area.



Dy. Director of Mines and Geology(FAC),  
Kadapa, Y.S.R. District.

To  
Smt C.Kasturi Bai, W/o. C.Ramachandraiah, D.No.20/1064, Co-operative Colony, Kadapa,  
Y.S.R. District, Cell No.9052707833.

Copy to the Asst. Director of Mines and Geology, Kadapa for favour of kind information.  
Copy submitted to the Director of Mines & Geology, Ibrahimpatnam for favour of kind information.



**ANDHRA PRADESH POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
**ZONAL OFFICE: KURNOOL**

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Shankar Shopping Complex, Krishna Nagar Main Road  
Phone : 08518-236912

Order No. CDP -692/Mines/APPCCB/ZO-KNL/2021-

Dt:29.05.2021

**CLOSURE ORDER**

- Sub:** APPCCB – ZO- Kurnool – Smt C.Kasturi Bai, Sy.No.1 & 133, Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist– Operating the mining unit without Environmental Clearance and Consents of the Board – **Closure orders** - Issued – Reg.
- Ref:**
1. Environment Impact Assessment Notification No. S.O. 1533 (E), Dt: 14.09.2006.
  2. Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment order dt: 02.08.2017 in WP (C) No. 114 of 2014.
  3. MoEF&CC, GoI, New Delhi Notification No. S.O. 1030 (E) Dt: 08.03.2018.
  4. MoEF&CC, GoI, New Delhi Memorandum Dt: 15.03.2018 & 16.03.2018.
  5. Explosion accident in Barytes mine of SmtC.Kasturi Bai, Sy.No.1 & 133, Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist on 08.05.2021 reported in the media
  6. Inspection of the industry by PCB officials on 09.05.2021
  7. RO, Kadapa Lr.No.CFE/CFO/PCB/RO-KDP/2021-40, dt.10.05.2021
  8. RO, Kadapa submitted report to ZO, Kurnool, dt. 27.05.2021
  9. EAC Committee meeting held at ZO, Kurnool APPCCB on 29.05.2021

\* \* \*

**WHEREAS** you are operating 30.696 Ha Barytes Mine in the name & style of SmtC.Kasturi Bai, Sy.No.1 & 133, Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist

**WHEREAS**, as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notification reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited, construction of new projects or activities or the expansion or modernization of existing projects or activates listed under notification shall obtain prior Environmental Clearance (EC) from the Central Government or the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority constituted by the Central Government, in accordance with the procedure specified in the notification.

**WHEREAS**, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, in its judgment order dt. 02.08.2017 in WP (C) No. 114 of 2014 directed to take appropriate action against illegal operation of mining activities carried out in violation of EP Act, Water Act and Air Act.

**WHEREAS**, you are operating the mining unit without obtaining Environmental Clearance (EC) as required vide notification number S.O. 1533(E) Dt: 14.09.2006 of Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India and amendments /Office memo issued thereof, vide reference 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> cited.

**WHEREAS**, you are operating the mining unit without obtaining consents of the Board as required under Section 25/26 of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 21/22 of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

**WHEREAS**, the APPCCB, RO, Kadapa, vide reference 5<sup>th</sup> cited, submitted a report to ZO, Kurnoolstating that explosion accident took place near Barytes Mine of SmtC.Kasturi Bai, Sy.No.1 & 133 of Mamillapalle (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist on 08.05.2021 and death of 10 workers has been reported.

**WHEREAS**, vide reference 6<sup>th</sup> cited, the Board officials visited the site on 09.05.2021 and interacted with the local villagers and Sri Venkatarami Reddy of Akkivaripalli Village informed that a huge explosion occurred on 08.05.2021 at around 9.10 AM in the mine area, while unloading and mishandling of explosives and detonators from vehicle, resulting in death of 10 persons working at the mine.

**WHEREAS**, vide reference 7<sup>th</sup> cited, the EE, RO, Kadapa, requested the Dy. Director of Mines & Geology Kadapa, on 10.05.2021, not to permit mines to operate without EC, CFE/CFO.

**WHEREAS**, vide reference 8<sup>th</sup> cited, the EE, RO, Kadapa submitted a report to ZO, Kurnool on 27.05.2021 (Mail received on 28.05.2021) to take action against the Barytes Mine of Smt. C.Kasturi Bai, Sy.No.1 & 133 of Mamillapalli (V), Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist for operating the mine without Environmental Clearance, CFE/CFO of the Board.

**WHEREAS**, the Board vide reference 9<sup>th</sup> cited, the issue was placed in the External Advisory Committee of A.P.Pollution Control Board in its meeting held on 29.05.2021 at A.P. Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, Kurnool and observed the following:

**a. Operating the mine without Environmental Clearance, CFE/CFO of the Board.**

The committee after detailed discussion on the agenda, recommended to issue closure order to the mining unit as the mining unit is operating without Environmental Clearance, Consent for Establishment/Consent for Operation of the Board.

After careful consideration of the material facts of the case, the Board is of the firm opinion that you are operating the mining unit without Environmental Clearance as required under Environment (Protection) Act 1986 and CFE/CFO of the Board as required under Section 21/22 of Air Act. Therefore, the Board under Sec.31 (A) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution), Amendment Act, 1987 for the reasons stated above, Under the Powers vested with the A.P. Pollution Control Board under Section 31(A) of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and its Amendments thereof the Board hereby issues **Closure Order** to your mining unit in the interest of protecting public health and environment.

You are further directed to take note that if you continue to operate your industry after receipt of this order, you will be liable for prosecution U/s. 37(1) of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1987, the punishment under this section will be imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than one year six months but which may extend to six years and with fine.

You are also directed to take note that **the Assistant Director, Mines and Geology Department, Gol, has been requested not to issue work permit to your mine in view of closure order issued by the Board and those mines which are not having Environmental Clearance (EC). Should you resort to operate your mining unit by any means you will be attracting prosecution U/s. 37(1) of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Amendment Act, 1987 and its amendments thereof.**

The orders will take effect from today i.e., 29.05.2021.

**K Venkateswara**  
Rao  
**JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER**  
**ZONAL OFFICE, KURNOOL**

Digitally signed by K  
Venkateswara Rao  
Date: 2021.05.29 16:01:03  
+05'30'

To

**Smt.C.Kasturi Bai,**  
**Sy.No.1 & 133, Mamillapalle (V),**  
**Kalasapadu (M), YSR Dist**

**Copy to :**

1. The Director of Mines, Dept of Mines & Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Sri Anjaneya Towers, Door No. 7-104, 'B' Block, 5<sup>th</sup>& 6<sup>th</sup> Floors, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada-521 456 for information.
2. The Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Task Force, UH-II, A.P. Pollution Control Board, Vijayawada for information.
3. The Assistant Director of Mines & Geology Department, Kadapa District, Government of Andhra Pradesh, with a request not to issue work permit to the above mine in view of closure order issued by the Board
4. The Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Kadapa with a direction to serve the closure order in person and obtain acknowledgement. He is also directed to furnish the report of the compliance on the closure order.

