

IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 84 OF 2025

AKHILESH KUMAR

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH

...RESPONDENT(S)

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THROUGH



Date: 03/02/2026

Place: New Delhi
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**REPLY ON THE BEHALF OF MEMBER SECRETARY, STATE LEVEL
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY ALONG
WITH THE SUPPORTING AFFIDAVIT.**

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

- 1.** That the answering Respondents deny each and every statement, contention, submission, allegation, and/or averment made by the Petitioner in the petition, which is contrary to or inconsistent with the present reply or the records of the case. It is categorically stated that all such statements, submissions, or averments made by the petitioner that are inconsistent with what is submitted in this reply are denied in totality, except those which are specifically and

expressly admitted hereinafter. Furthermore, it is submitted that any omission to deny any of the averments made by the petitioner should not be construed as an admission on the part of the answering Respondents, and no adverse inference should be drawn from such omissions.

2. That the Original Application No. 84 of 2025 Akhilesh Kumar Vs State Of Uttar Pradesh and Others has been filed before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, sitting at New Delhi wherein the petitioners have made following prayer before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi, sitting at New Delhi.

- a) *Quash and set aside the decision of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Uttar Pradesh, dated 17.12.2024, whereby the committee of Mining officer, Sonbhadra, representative of Sonbhadra (not below of the rank of ADM) and the soil scientist belonging to the agricultural university has been constituted to address the question of mineral availability at Arazi No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.*
- b) *Issue appropriate directions to Union Environment Ministry to establish a clear , binding and proper mechanism to reconcile the disputes between State Environment Impact Assessment Authority*

(SEIAA) and State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) in the preparation and appraisal of District Survey Reports (DSRs).

- c) Direct that the evaluation of the area in question be conducted by an independent and unbiased expert committee, preferably comprising professionals from the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, and the Indian Bureau of Mines, with members having no prior involvement in the preparation or approval of the District Survey Report (DSR).*
- d) Direct the Respondents to ensure compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 10.11.2021, Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, and the Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, particularly with respect to the use of scientific and latest modern technologies and methods during the preparation of DSR.*
- e) Pass such other and further orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem just and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case to protect the environment and uphold the principles of natural justice.*

3. That the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India, by its notification dated 14-09-2006 (as amended) has made Prior Environmental Clearance a mandatory pre-condition for the

establishment or expansion of any project or activity listed in the Schedule appended thereto, including all new projects, all expansions or modernizations that cross threshold limits, and any change in product-mix beyond the specified range, the objective being to impose necessary restrictions or prohibitions based on potential environmental impacts.

- 4.** That under the said notification environmental clearance for matters falling under Category "A" of the Schedule is to be obtained from the Central Government in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, while clearance for matters falling under Category "B" is to be obtained at the State level from SEIAA, such decision necessarily resting on the recommendations of a duly constituted SEAC.
- 5.** That SEIAA-UP and SEAC-UP were constituted by notification S.O. 3338(E) dated 16-10-2017 and reconstituted by notification S.O. 2276(E) dated 11-06-2021 issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change; the Directorate of Environment, Government of Uttar Pradesh, has been designated to function as the Secretariat to both bodies, and all proposals for Prior Environmental Clearance received by SEIAA-UP are dealt with strictly in accordance with the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended.

- 6.** It becomes necessary to mention here that the reconstituted SEIAA-UP and SEAC-UP vide notification S.O. 2276(E) dated 11-06-2021 issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has been dissolved on 10-6-2025.
- 7.** That it is most respectfully submitted that SEIAA issued Term of Reference for the MoEFCC Proposal No.SIA/UP/MIN/429334/2023 & SEIAA, UP File No. 7891 vide letter No. 146/parya/SEIAA/7891/2023 dated: 01.07.2023.
- 8.** That it is most respectfully submitted that the Project Proponent vide MoEFCC Proposal No.SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023 applied for the grant of EC on 21/09/2023 which is the matter of record.
- 9.** The case was considered in 798th SECA-2 Meeting dated: 13/10/2023 wherein, "A complaint dated 11/10/2023 of Akash Dubey, (Environmental Activist) S/o Shri Mahendra Kumar, Ara Kalan, Arahkala, Allahabad, U.P.-221508 received against the forgery committed by Rudra Mining Company in obtaining the environmental clearance for extraction at "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 च , Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. Complaint stated that area in question i.e. Arazi No.- 15 च , Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa,

Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh is a plain land where in there is no deposition of morrum. In this regard complainant has also enclosed photograph of lease area. The committee observed that in the video of drone survey presented by the project proponent/consultant that soil/plain land with flora & fauna is visible. The committee opined that in this situation it would be appropriate to get actual position of the lease area through a site visit. Hence, the committee recommended to constitute a joint committee of Prof. Jaswant Singh, Member SEAC, RO, UPPCB, Sonebhadra & Mining Officer, Sonebhadra to inspect the mining site and provide factual report to SEAC to take necessary action in the matter.”

10. Subsequently the case was considered in 774th SEIAA Meeting dated: 07/11/2023 wherein, “SEIAA noted that according to KML mining is being carried out. SEIAA agreed with the recommendation of SEAC to constitute a joint committee of Prof. Jaswant Singh, Member SEAC, RO, UPPCB, Sonebhadra & Mining Officer, Sonebhadra to inspect the mining site and provide factual report to SEAC to take necessary action in the matter. The joint committee must submit the report within 15 days.”

11. Further, SEIAA communicated Member Secretary, UPPCB, Lucknow with the decision taken by the authority in its Meeting 07/11/2023

vide letter No. 666/parya/8280-7891/2023 dated: 22/11/2023 and making the copy of the same to Chairman, SEAC-2, regional officer Sonebhadra, Prof Jaswant Singh, Member SEAC-2, District Mining officer, Sonebhadra. and to Nodal officer SEAC-2 for information and necessary action. Concerned copy of letter letter No. 666/parya/8280-7891/2023 dated: 22/11/2023 is annexed herewith as **Annexure-1.**

- 12.** It is necessary to mention here that for evaluation/ Appraisal of District Survey Report (DSR) of District- Sonebhadra (Sand/Morrum Mining) A Joint Meeting of SEAC-1 and SEAC-2 was held on 03/12/2024 wherein, SEAC also discussed the matter with Senior Mining Officer, Sonbhadra related to National Green Tribunal (NGT) O.A. No. 109/2024 (I.A. No. 481/2024) Akash Dubey Vs Union of India & Ors and legal notices/complaints received regarding the DSR. The SEAC-1 & 2 examined the Joint Committee reports submitted in Original Application No. 109 of 2024. The Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024, which includes representatives from SEIAA and Regional Officer, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh. SEAC-1 & 2 observed that the Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024 explicitly states that there are no mineral deposits in Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02 located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil–Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar

Pradesh. The area consists of soil and plain land situated at the outer reach of the rear end of the riverbank, with a low likelihood of mineral occurrences. Similarly, the other Joint Committee report dated 05/07/2024 has also not provided the exact amount of Mineable Mineral at Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02, located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil–Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.

Observing the above reports as well as the Sand Management Guidelines – 2016 & Enforcement and Management Guidelines for Sand Mining – 2020 which provide a framework for sustainable sand and gravel mining, the committee recommends to approved rest 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned in Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District- Sonebhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra along with following conditions:

- 1.** The District Survey Report (DSR) shall be updated once in five years as mentioned in MoEF&CC, Govt. of India Notification No. S.O. 141(E), dated 15/01/2016, as per laid down procedure, under intimation to SEIAA.
- 2.** 26 mining lease areas are approved in the final District Survey Report.

- 3.** If any new lease is identified, Sub-Divisional Committee will follow the entire procedure every time on the basis of existing DSR.
- 4.** After approval of DSR from SEIAA, the District Administration shall upload the DSR in public domain along with Lease Wise Digital Maps showing the status of deposits and pillar wise coordinates of existing and proposed areas.
- 5.** The District Administration shall utilize the District Mineral Foundation Funds as per notification no. 866/86-2017-132/2016 dated 15/05/2017 issued by Department of Geology and Mining, Government of U.P. or any modification in it by competent authority.
- 6.** DMF fund should also be utilized for the environmental protection, development and maintenance of haulage road.
- 7.** The lease shall periodically conduct audits of operative mine leases and take corrective measures as per the directions of District Administration in case of adverse observations and, a yearly report on this shall be sent to SEIAA as compliance."
- 13.** Subsequently, the case was considered in 864th Meeting of the SEIAA, UP held on 17.12.2024 wherein, "In light of O.A. No. 109/2024 (I.A. No. 481/2024) Akash Dubey Vs Union of India & Ors in National Green Tribunal (NGT) and joint committee report

submitted on 05.03.2024 and 05.07.2024. SEIAA agreed with the recommendation of SEAC to approve the District Survey Report (DSR) of District- Sonebhadra (Sand/Morrum) for 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned at Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonebhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) with following conditions:

1. During DSR formulation a sub-committee is formed at District level and representative of Forest Department is a member in this sub-committee, so it is expected that they examine the issue of distance of forest area from the mining lease as well as distance of protected area (as per Wildlife Protection act 1972) from the mining lease. Hence, a certificate signed by an officer not below the rank of ACF shall be submitted with-in 15 days that the leases do not lie with-in any protected area, National Park, Wild-life Sanctuary and ESZ.
2. Cluster EIA shall be conducted for the leases forming clusters and so mentioned in DSR. District Magistrate and DGM are advised to inform the lease holders, at the time of issuance of LoI that cluster EIA should be conducted.

3. Replenishment study on the basis of which the mineral availability is assessed should be uploaded on websites of District and Mining Department Uttar Pradesh and submitted to SEIAA along with methodology adopted for study and details like geo-coordinates etc. of study points."

14. Also, on the receiving of letter No.2818/khanij/2025 dated: 26/03/2025 issued by the office of District Magistrate, Sonbhadra the case was considered in 884th SEIAA Meeting dated: 02/04/2025 wherein, *"SEIAA noted that during appraisal of DSR of Sonebhadra SEAC 1 & 2 in its joint meeting dated 03.12.2024 examined the Joint Committee reports submitted in Original Application No. 109 of 2024. The Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024, which included representatives from SEIAA and Regional Officer, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh. SEAC-1 & 2 observed that the Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024 explicitly states that there are no mineral deposits in Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02 located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. The area consists of soil and plain land situated at the outer reach of the rear end of the riverbank, with a low likelihood of mineral occurrences. Similarly, the other Joint Committee report dated Page 9 of 26 Minutes of the Joint Meeting of SEAC -1 and SEAC-2, U.P. held on 03/12/2024 05/07/2024 has also*

not provided the exact amount of Mineable Mineral at Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02, located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. Observing the above reports as well as the Sand Management Guidelines - 2016 & Enforcement and Management Guidelines for Sand Mining 2020 which provide a framework for sustainable sand and gravel mining, the committee recommended to approve rest 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned in Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil Obra, District- Sonebhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra.

The above project was taken in its 864 SEIAA meeting dated 17.12.2024 and 872 meeting dated 28.02.2025 in which

SEIAA reviewed the letter from the District Magistrate, Sonbhadra (Letter No. 2508/Khanij/DSR-Morum/2024-25) dated 15-02-2025 regarding Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District-Sonbhadra

SEIAA also referred to the deliberations of its 864th meeting held on 17-12-2024, wherein it was observed

"SEIAA noticed that the reports dated 15.03.2024, 05.07.2024 and 27.09 2024 do not address the question of mineral availability at the site. Hence SEIAA agreed to refer the matter to DM, Sonebhadra to get it examined by a committee of Mining Officer Sonebhadra, a

representative of DM, Sonbhadra, not below the rank of ADM, and a soil scientist belonging to a reputed agriculture university of State or the Center. The Committee was tasked with examining the area based on ocular as well as soil profile examination and photographs and videos were to be attached with the report. The report was to be submitted within three weeks

SEIAA noted that, in response to this directive, the District Magistrate, Sonbhadra, via Letter No. 2301/Khanij/2025 dated 13-01-2025, constituted a committee comprising:

- 1. A nominated Soil Scientist from the Registrar, BHU Varanasi,*
- 2. ADM (F/R), Sonbhadra, and*
- 3. Senior Mining Officers, Sonbhadra.*

SEIAA has reviewed the report of the committee and observed that the geo-coordinates of the lease area inspected have not been mentioned in the report. In light Sonbhadra, directing to ensure that the geo-coordinates of the lease area are clearly of the above, SEIAA opined that a letter should be sent to the District Magistrate, mentioned in the report of the committee constituted vide its order dated 13.01.2025.

DM Sonbhadra vide letter no. 2818/khanij/2025 dated 26.03.2025 has submitted the report of joint committee. Hence SEIAA opined that to refer the report to SEAC for comments."

- 15.** *It is also necessary to mention here that Joint Meeting of SEAC -1 and SEAC-2, U.P. was held on 19/05/2025 to Discuss on District Magistrate, Sonbhadra letter dated 26/03/2025 in view of decision taken by SEIAA in its meeting dated 02/04/2025 wherein, "The Secretariat informed the joint committee that Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi passed an order dated 25/11/2024 in Original Application No. 10/2024 (I.A. No. 481/2024) Akash Dubey Vs. Union of India & Ors. The operative part of the order as follows:*

"...

2. The Tribunal by order dated 29.01.2024, while issuing notice, had taken note of the fact that the Joint Committee was constituted by SEAC and had directed for submission of the report of the said Joint Committee before the Tribunal. Accordingly, the report dated 15.03.2024 was filed. The Tribunal by order dated 01.04.2024, had

constituted a Joint Committee which has submitted the report dated 05.07.2024 and had submitted the additional report dated 27.09.2024.

3. The prayer made by the Applicant in the OA is as under:-

"a. Direct Respondents and in particular SEIAA, UP to decide the complaint of the applicant within time as issued by this Hon'ble Court.

b. Direct the Respondents and in particular SEIAA-UP to finalize the issue regarding grant of Environmental Clearance to project proponent only after deciding the complaint raised by the applicant.

c. Direct Respondents to frame Regulatory mechanism for timely disposal of the complaints/representation highlighting issues regarding non implementation Green Laws of the Land. d. Pass any such other or further order as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case."

4. It has been pointed out that the issue relating to grant of EC is still pending before the SEIAA, UP and the application for the grant of EC made by Respondent No. 10 has not been allowed till now. Therefore, undisputedly, the issue which the applicant is raising and the material on which he is relying can be looked into by the SEIAA, UP at the stage of grant of EC.

5. Hence, we dispose of the OA permitting the applicant to place before the SEIAA, UP the reports of the Joint Committee on which he is placing reliance. The SEIAA, UP will duly consider the said reports at the before issuance of EC.

6. We make it clear that we have not examined the report of the Joint Committee. Hence, the SIEAA, UP will consider the report independently in accordance with the law while taking the decision."

The joint committee also noted that during the evaluation/appraisal of District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra on 03/12/2024 the joint committee decided as follows:

"...

SEAC also discussed the matter with Senior Mining Officer, Sonbhadra related to National Green Tribunal (NGT) O.A. No. 109/2024 (I.A. No. 481/2024) Akash Dubey Vs Union of India & Ors and legal notices/complaints received regarding the DSR.

The SEAC-1 & 2 examined the Joint Committee reports submitted in Original Application No. 109 of 2024. The Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024, which includes representatives from SEIAA and Regional Officer, Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. SEAC-1 & 2 observed that the Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024 explicitly states that there are no mineral deposits in Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02 located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil–Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. The area consists of soil and plain land situated at the outer reach of the rear end of the riverbank, with a low likelihood of mineral occurrences. Similarly, the other Joint Committee report dated 05/07/2024 has also not provided the exact amount of Mineable Mineral at Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02, located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil–Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.

Observing the above reports as well as the Sand Management Guidelines – 2016 & Enforcement and Management Guidelines for Sand Mining – 2020 which provide a framework for sustainable sand and gravel mining, the committee recommends to approved rest 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned in Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra.

The Secretariat also informed the joint committee that the matter was listed in 884th SEIAA meeting dated 02/04/2025 and decided as follows:

"SEIAA noted that during appraisal of DSR of Sonbhadra SEAC 1 & 2 in

its joint meeting dated 03.12.2024 examined the Joint Committee reports submitted in Original Application No. 109 of 2024. The Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024, which included representative from SEIAA (Prof. Jaswant Singh Member, SEAC) and Regional Officer, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh. SEAC-1 & 2 observed that the Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024 explicitly states that there are no mineral deposits in Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02 located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil– Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. The area consists of soil and plain land situated at the outer reach of the rear end of the riverbank, with a low likelihood of mineral occurrences. Similarly, the other Joint Committee report dated 05/07/2024 has also not provided the exact amount of Mineable Mineral at Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02, located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil–Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.

Observing the above reports as well as the Sand Management Guidelines – 2016 & Enforcement and Management Guidelines for Sand Mining – 2020 which provide a framework for sustainable sand and gravel mining, the committee recommended to approve rest 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned in Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra.

The above case was taken in its 864th SEIAA meeting dated 17.12.2024 and 872nd meeting dated 28.02.2025 in which:

SEIAA reviewed the letter from the District Magistrate, Sonbhadra (Letter No. 2508/Khanij/DSR-Morum/2024-25) dated 15-02-2025 regarding Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District- Sonbhadra.

SEIAA also referred to the deliberations of its 864th meeting held on 17-12-2024, wherein it was observed:

"... SEIAA noticed that the reports dated 15.03.2024, 05.07.2024 and 27.09.2024 do not address the question of mineral availability at the site. Hence SEIAA agreed to refer the matter to DM, Sonebhadra to get it examined by a committee of- Mining Officer Sonebhadra, a representative of DM, Sonebhadra, not below the rank of ADM, and a soil scientist belonging to a reputed agriculture university of State or

the Center. The Committee was tasked with examining the area based on ocular as well as soil profile examination and photographs and videos were to be attached with the report. The report was to be submitted within three weeks.

SEIAA noted that, in response to this directive, the District Magistrate, Sonbhadra, via Letter No. 2301/Khanij/2025 dated 13-01-2025, constituted a committee comprising:

- 1. A nominated Soil Scientist from the Registrar, BHU Varanasi,*
- 2. ADM (F/R), Sonbhadra, and*
- 3. Senior Mining Officers, Sonbhadra.*

SEIAA has reviewed the report of the committee and observed that the geo-coordinates of the lease area inspected have not been mentioned in the report. In light of the above, SEIAA opined that a letter should be sent to the District Magistrate, Sonebhadra, directing to ensure that the geo-coordinates of the lease area are clearly mentioned in the report of the committee constituted vide its order dated 13.01.2025.

DM Sonebhadra vide letter no. 2818/khanij/2025 dated 26.03.2025 has submitted the report of joint committee. Hence SEIAA opined that to refer the report to SEAC for examination and recommendation."

The joint committee also noted that Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi passed an order dated 03/03/2025 in Original Application No. 84/2025 (I.A. No. 142/2025) Akhilesh Kumar Vs. State of U.P. & Ors. The operative part of the order as follows:

"...

6. He submits that in terms of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of The State of Bihar & Ors. v. Pawan Kumar & Ors. dated 10.11.2021 the SEAC ought to have directed for use of modern technology. Referring to the clause 8(2) of the EIA Notification dated 2006, he has submitted if there was a conflict in the views of the SEAC and SEIAA then SEIAA instead of forming a Joint Committee ought to have referred the matter back to the SEAC with due reasons. He submits that though no mineable mineral exists in the said lease area yet the SEIAA is in the process of issuing the lease for that area.

7. Issue notice to the Respondents for filing their reply by way of affidavit.

8. The Applicant is directed to serve the Respondents and file affidavit of service at least one week before next date of hearing.

9. List on 30.05.2025."

The joint committee discussed the matter in depth and opined that the report of the committee constituted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority must be sent to the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Lucknow for comments in light of Supreme Court order dated 10/11/2021 passed in Civil Appeal No. 3661-3662 of 2022 The State of Bihar and others Vs. Pawan Kumar and others & Ors. The committee directed that the matter should be sent to SEIAA for information and doing needful (in hard copy only).

True copy of minutes of meeting of Joint Meeting of SEAC-1 & SEAC-2, dated 19/05/2025(Part Minute) is annexed herewith as Annexure-2.

16. Further, the case was considered in 904th SEIAA Meeting dated: 31/05/2025 wherein, *SEIAA noted that the above project was taken in its 884th meeting in which SEIAA opined that letter no. 2818/khanij/2025 dated 26 03.2025 of DM Sonebhadra shall be referred to SEAC for examination and recommendation. SEAC in its joint meeting dated 19.05.2025 discussed the matter in depth and*

opined that the report of the committee constituted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority must be sent to the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Lucknow for comments in light of Supreme Court order dated 10.11.2021 passed in Civil Appeal no. 3661-3662 of 2020 the state of Bihar and others Vs. Pawan Kumar and others.

SEIAA noted that DM, Sonbhadra vide letter no. 2508//khanij/DSR-Morrum/2024-25 dated 15.02.2025 has submitted the report done by Surveyor, Mining Department, Sonbhadra, Senior Mining Officers, Sonbhadra. The report states that:

नियत तिथि दिनांक 03.02.2025 को) 1) प्रो० जनार्दन यादव, मृदा एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग, बी०एच०यू०, वाराणसी) 2)- अपर जिलाधिकारी /०वि) रा० (सोनभद्र, (3)- ज्येष्ठ खान अधिकारी सोनभद्र व) 4) सर्वेक्षक खनिज विभाग सोनभद्र द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से क्षेत्र की जाँच की गयी। जाँचोपरान्त प्रो० जनार्दन, मृदा एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग द्वारा अपने पत्र सं - Agrichem./2024-25/L/ दिनांक 05.02.2025 द्वारा उपरोक्त क्षेत्र जनपद सोनभद्र- -संख्या आराजी के भगवा-ग्राम स्थित ओबरा-तहसील की 15 च -खण्ड) 2) रकबा 12.146 हे० हेतु लिये गये सेम्पल का वैज्ञानिक परीक्षण कर आख्या प्रस्तुत की गयी है, जिसमें उल्लिखित है कि 'जनपद के तहसील ओबरा- में स्थित ग्रामसं आराजी के भगवां-0-15 च -खण्ड) 2) रकबा 12146 हे० में बालू दिनांक सर्वेक्षण का मोरम/03.02.2025 को किया गया। पूरे रकबे में लगभग 3 से 4 मीटर गहराई के 5 गड्ढे खोदवा कर बालू सेम्पल का मोरम/ कृषि एवं विज्ञान मृदा परीक्षण का सेम्पल इन तथा गया कियारसायन विभाग में हाइड्रोमीटर विधि (०आल ०एट हिन्गा) 1980) से बालू, सिल्ट और क्ले की प्रतिशत मात्रा ज्ञात किया गया। पांचो सेम्पल में बालू मोरम/95.70 से 95.74 प्रतिशत पाया गया तथा औसत रूप से बालू मोरम /95.72

प्रतिशत तथा सिल्ट क्ले+4.28 प्रतिशत था। इस डाटा से यह साबित होता है कि उक्त रकबा कृषि के लिये अनुपयुक्त है, क्योंकि इसमें बालू की मात्रा बहुत अधिक है। According to above report 95.72% of sand/morrum is present and land is not fit for agriculture. Hence SEIAA opined that this report which is based on soil profile study as well as chemical analysis clearly shows that there is mineable mineral available in the mine under consideration. SEAC has recommended for inclusion of this area in DSR. Hence SEIAA agreed to include this area in the DSR of Sonebhadra.”

True copy of minutes of meeting of SEIAA, dated 31.05.2025(Part-A) is annexed herewith as Annexure-3.

- 17.** That as per the decision taken by the authority in 904th SEIAA Meeting dated: 31/05/2025, Member Secratry, SEIAA, UP informed the same to the Director, Geology and Mining, Lucknow,UP, and requested for needful action vide letter no. 36/ Parya/8280-7891/2023 dated: 09/6/2025.

True copy of letter, letter No. 36/ Parya/8280-7891/2023 dated: 09/6/2025 is annexed herewith as Annexure-4.

- 18.** That it is important to mention here that the case was considered in 955th Meeting of the SEAC-2 held on 29.09.2025 wherein, the committee discussed the matter and recommended grant of environmental clearance for the proposal alongwith standard environmental clearance conditions prescribed by MoEF&CC, Govt. of India. The committee also stipulated specific conditions.

19. Further, the case was considered in 919th Meeting of the SEIAA, UP held on 10.11.2025, wherein, SEIAA considered the recommendation of SEAC to grant EC to said project. However it was brought to the knowledge of the authority that in OA no. 547 of 2025 before Hon'ble NGT the following order dated 03.11.2025 has been passed, whose operative part is as follow:

"...9. Meanwhile, SEIAA, UP will duly consider the above objections/allegation of the applicant before issuing the EC, if the same has not been issued till now."

SEIAA opined to defer the matter in the light of above order of Hon'ble NGT.

20. Further, in compliance of order dated 03.11.2025, the applicant Shri Akhilesh Kumar was informed by the office of SEIAA vide its letter no. 765/parya/8280/2025, dated 17.11.2025 and email dated 17.11.2025 and given opportunity of personal hearing of SEIAA. Advocate Gaurav Kumar Bansal on behalf of applicant along with the applicant Akhilesh Kumar were present online before SEIAA on 25.11.2025.

21. Further, the case was considered in 927th Meeting of the SEIAA, UP held on 05.12.2025, wherein, SEIAA agreed with the recommendation of SEAC-2 and opined to grant EC along with all the

general and specific conditions as suggested by SEAC also adding specific conditions.

- 22.** Subsequently, SEIAA, vide EC Identification no. EC25B001UP167874, dated: 16/12/2025 issued Environment Clearance for the project proposal.

True copy of Environment Clearance letter dated 16/12/2025 is being filed herewith and marked as Annexure no. 05.

- 23.** That it is most respectfully submitted that SEIAA has evaluated the case while prioritizing the best interests of society and natural resources (rivers) from an environmental perspective. SEIAA's approach is not mine-centric but rather environmental and social, ensuring that local livelihoods are not adversely affected and that environmental sustainability is maintained under the prevailing circumstances.

- 24.** That it is pertinent to mention here that Annexure X of the amended MoEF&CC, GoI Notification dated 25.07.2018 prescribes the procedure for preparation and approval of the District Survey Report (DSR), mandating its preparation at the district level through a Sub-Divisional Committee constituted under the concerned District Magistrate, including assessment of mineral availability and

replenishment potential. Pursuant thereto, a joint meeting of SEIAA, SEAC-1 and SEAC-2, in consultation with the Department of Mining, formulated a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the preparation and modification of DSRs for sand mining, in conformity with MoEF&CC Notifications No. S.O. 141(E) dated 15.01.2016 and S.O. 3611(E) dated 25.07.2018, the Sustainable Sand Mining Management Guidelines, 2016, the Enforcement and Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining, 2020, the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *State of Bihar & Others vs. Pawan Kumar* (Civil Appeal Nos. 3661–3662 of 2020), and the MoEF&CC letter dated 04.12.2023. The Directorate of Geology and Mining (DGM), being the statutory authority vested with requisite technical expertise and manpower, is responsible for technical evaluation and accordingly, as a matter of legal and procedural prudence, every draft DSR is referred by SEIAA/SEAC to Directorate of Geology and Mining U.P. Lucknow for expert scrutiny and vetting as an integral part of the SOP.

- 25.** That it is most respectfully submitted that with regard to illegal mining, the primary responsibility for its control rests with the District Administration. The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) is responsible only for ensuring that Environmental

Clearances (EC) are granted in strict compliance with all applicable rules and regulations.

- 26.** That the Respondent respectfully submits that they remains at the disposal of this Hon'ble Tribunal and shall abide by and ensure strict compliance with any further orders or directions that may be passed in the matter.

**IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI
IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 84 OF 2025**

AKHILESH KUMAR

...APPLICANT

VERSUS

STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH

...RESPONDENT(S)

AFFIDAVIT

I, Vidhyotma Bharti, aged about 49 years w/o Dr. G.L. Nigam is presently posted as Assistant Director, Regional Office, Noida, Directorate of Environment, U.P., having an office at E-12/1, Noida, U.P., presently at New Delhi, do hereby solemnly affirm and declare as under: -

1. That I am posted as stated above and well conversant with the facts of the present case and as such competent to swear this affidavit on behalf of Member Secretary, SEIAA before this Tribunal.
2. That the accompanying Reply has been drafted by our counsel upon the instructions received by Member Secretary.
3. That the contents of the accompanying Reply are true and correct, and the knowledge has been derived from official records and nothing material has been concealed therefrom.
4. That the Deponent will continue to extend her full cooperation and shall abide by any further directions that the Hon'ble Tribunal may issue.



V. Shashi



DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

Verified on solemn affirmatin at New Delhi this **03 FEB 2026** day of 2026, that the contents of the foregoing affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom

Remu Agrawal
6/10
I identified the deponent who has signed in my presence

V. Shashi
DEPONENT

ATTESTED
[Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC (INDIA)

03 FEB 2026

ANNEXURE -1

प्रेषक,

निदेशक,
पर्यावरण निदेशालय, उ०प्र०,
विनीत खण्ड-1, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ-226010

सेवा में,

सदस्य सचिव,
उ०प्र० प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड,
लखनऊ।

पत्रांक : 666 /पर्या./8280 -7891/2023

दिनांक 22 नवम्बर, 2023

विषय:- "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 □, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh, Area 12.146 ha., 8280/7891/SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023 के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय,

कृपया उपरोक्त प्रस्ताव पर राज्य स्तरीय विशेषज्ञ मूल्यांकन समिति की बैठक दिनांक 13.10.2023 में विचार कर निम्नवत् संस्तुति की गई :-

A complaint dated 11/10/2023 of Akash Dubey, (Environmental Activist) S/o Shri Mahendra Kumar, Ara Kalan, Arahkala, Allahabad, U.P.-221508 received against the forgery committed by Rudra Mining Company in obtaining the environmental clearance for extraction at "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 च, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. Complaint stated that area in question i.e. Arazi No.- 15 च, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh is a plain land where in there is no deposition of morrum. In this regard complainant has also enclosed photograph of lease area.

The committee observed that in the video of drone survey presented by the project proponent/consultant that soil/plain land with flora & fauna is visible. The committee opined that in this situation it would be appropriate to get actual position of the lease area through a site visit. Hence, the committee recommended to constitute a joint committee of Prof. Jaswant Singh, Member SEAC, RO, UPPCB, Sonebhadra & Mining Officer, Sonebhadra to inspect the mining site and provide factual report to SEAC to take necessary action in the matter.

समिति की संस्तुति के आधार पर राज्य स्तरीय पर्यावरण प्रभाव निर्धारण प्राधिकरण, उ०प्र० की बैठक दिनांक 07.11.2023 में तटस्थ सहमति रखी गयी।

प्राधिकरण/समिति की बैठको में लिये गये निर्णय के आलोक में सम्बन्धित कार्यवृत्त की प्रति इस अनुरोध के साथ प्रेषित है कि उक्त के सम्बन्ध में factual report उपलब्ध करवाने का कष्ट करें।

संलग्नक- यथोक्त।

भवदीया

(श्रुति शुक्ला)

उप निदेशक/नोडल,
एस०ई०आई०ए०ए०

प्रतिलिपि-निम्नांकित को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित।

1. अध्यक्ष, एस०ई०ए०सी०-2।
2. क्षेत्रीय अधिकारी, उ०प्र० प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, सोनभद्र।
3. प्रो० जसवन्त सिंह, सदस्य, एस०ई०ए०सी०-2, डा० राम मनोहर लोहिय, विश्व विद्यालय, अयोध्या।
4. जिला खनन अधिकारी, सोनभद्र।
5. नोडल, एस०ई०ए०सी०-2।

(श्रुति शुक्ला)

उप निदेशक/नोडल,
एस०ई०आई०ए०ए०

Minutes of 798th SEAC-2 Meeting Dated 13/10/2023

the survival rate notified by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department otherwise it will be treated as violation of EC condition.

4. The project proponent shall install solar light in their site office.
 5. During the submission of 6 monthly compliance reports, the project proponent should make sure that the periodically taken site photographs should also be annexed along with the compliance report.
 6. Preference should be given to indigenous local species as per the consultation of the local district Forest Officer.
 7. Link Road from the quarry site to the main road shall be constructed as an all-weather road with blacktopping and maintained by the project proponent.
 8. Vehicular emissions should be kept under control and regularly monitored. Suitable measures shall be taken for proper maintenance of vehicles used in a quarry operation and transportation.
 9. The project proponent should explore the possibilities of rainwater harvesting.
 10. Agreement/ Consent between project proponent and competent authority/ landowner for haulage road from lease site to link road.
 11. Latest technology (water sprinklers/ tankers) to be adopted for mitigating dust at source points in lease area and haulage road during operational activity/vehicular movement.
 12. As per the proposed plan, plantation with area specific plant species, number of plants to be planted and report of green belt development to be submitted to the concerning department
 13. Water requirement details along with source of water and the permission/ agreement with the concerning authority/ water supplying agencies to be submitted.
 14. Submit the Hydrological study report of lease area that the quantity given in LoI will be mined without affecting the geo-hydrology of the River.
8. Integrated Township "Park Ville" at Khasra Nos. 104, 181, 182, 184, 489, 499, 503, 504, 505, 506, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 872, 873, 874, 875, 877, 901, Village – Siddhpura, Beli Road, Shivlar, Tehsil – Mohanlalganj, District – Lucknow, Shri Shailesh Dwivedi, M/s Swastik Multitrade Private Limited., 8278/SIA/UP/INFRA2/444809/2023

RESOLUTION AGAINST AGENDA NO. 08

The project proponent/consultant did not appear. The committee discussed and deliberated that the project file should be closed and be opened only after request from the project proponent. The file shall not be treated as pending at SEAC. The matter will be discussed only after submission of online requests on prescribed online portal.

9. "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 ऋ, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh, Area 12.146 ha., 8280/7891/SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023

RESOLUTION AGAINST AGENDA NO. 09

A complaint dated 11/10/2023 of Akash Dubey, (Environmental Activist) S/o Shri Mahendra Kumar, Ara Kalan, Arahkala, Allahabad, U.P.-221508 received against the forgery committed by Rudra Mining Company in obtaining the environmental clearance for extraction at "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 ऋ, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. Complaint stated that area in question i.e. Arazi No.- 15 ऋ, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh is a plain land where in there is no deposition of morrum. In this regard complainant has also enclosed photograph of lease area.

The committee observed that in the video of drone survey presented by the project proponent/consultant that soil/plain land with flora & fauna is visible. The committee opined that in this situation it would be appropriate to get actual position of the lease area through a site visit. Hence, the committee recommended to constitute a joint committee of Prof. Jaswant Singh, Member SEAC, RO, UPPCB, Sonbhadra & Mining Officer, Sonbhadra to inspect the mining site and provide factual report to SEAC to take necessary action in the matter.

Minutes of the Joint Meeting of SEAC -1 and SEAC-2, U.P. held on 19/05/2025 (Part Minutes)

The Joint Meeting of State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC – 1 & 2) was held in Directorate of Environment, U.P. on 19/05/2025, following members were in the meeting:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Rajive Kumar, | Chairman, SEAC-1 |
| 2. Dr. Harikesh Bahadur Singh, | Chairman, SEAC-2 |
| 3. Shri Sushant Sharma, IFS, | Member-Secretary, SEAC - 1 & 2 |
| 4. Shri Om Prakash Srivastava, | Member, SEAC-1 |
| 5. Dr. Ratan Kar, | Member, SEAC-1 |
| 6. Shri Umesh Chand Sharma, | Member, SEAC-1 |
| 7. Dr. Brij Bihari Awasthi, | Member, SEAC-1 |
| 8. Dr. Dineshwar Prasad Singh, | Member, SEAC-2 |
| 9. Shri Tanzar Ullah Khan, | Member, SEAC-2 |
| 10. Dr. Shiv Om Singh, | Member, SEAC-2 |

The Member-Secretary, SEAC welcomed the Chairman's, Members and Officers of Mining Department in the meeting which was conducted via dual-mode (virtually/physically).

The Secretariat informed the committee that the important Hon'ble NGT matters listed in the meeting and separate minutes of the under given matter is required to be sent to SEIAA for necessary action. The committee agreed to it.

In the Joint committee meeting of SEAC-1 and SEAC-2 following agenda were discussed and resolved:-

- **Discussion on District Magistrate, Sonbhadra letter dated 26/03/2025 in view of decision taken by SEIAA in its meeting dated 02/04/2025.**

The Secretariat informed the joint committee that Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi passed an order dated 25/11/2024 in Original Application No. 10/2024 (I.A. No. 481/2024) Akash Dubey Vs. Union of India & Ors. The operative part of the order as follows:

“ ...

2. The Tribunal by order dated 29.01.2024, while issuing notice, had taken note of the fact that the Joint Committee was constituted by SEAC and had directed for submission of the report of the said Joint Committee before the Tribunal. Accordingly, the report dated 15.03.2024 was filed. The Tribunal by order dated 01.04.2024, had constituted a Joint Committee which has submitted the report dated 05.07.2024 and had submitted the additional report dated 27.09.2024.

3. The prayer made by the Applicant in the OA is as under:-

“a. Direct Respondents and in particular SEIAA, UP to decide the complaint of the applicant within time as issued by this Hon'ble Court.

b. Direct the Respondents and in particular SEIAA-UP to finalize the issue regarding grant of Environmental Clearance to project proponent only after deciding the complaint raised by the applicant.

c. Direct Respondents to frame Regulatory mechanism for timely disposal of the complaints/representation highlighting issues regarding non implementation Green Laws of the

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Land. d. Pass any such other or further order as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case."

4. It has been pointed out that the issue relating to grant of EC is still pending before the SEIAA, UP and the application for the grant of EC made by Respondent No. 10 has not been allowed till now. Therefore, undisputedly, the issue which the applicant is raising and the material on which he is relying can be looked into by the SEIAA, UP at the stage of grant of EC.

5. Hence, we dispose of the OA permitting the applicant to place before the SEIAA, UP the reports of the Joint Committee on which he is placing reliance. The SEIAA, UP will duly consider the said reports at the before issuance of EC.

6. We make it clear that we have not examined the report of the Joint Committee. Hence, the SEIAA, UP will consider the report independently in accordance with the law while taking the decision."

The joint committee also noted that during the evaluation/appraisal of District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra on 03/12/2024 the joint committee decided as follows:

"...

SEAC also discussed the matter with Senior Mining Officer, Sonbhadra related to National Green Tribunal (NGT) O.A. No. 109/2024 (I.A. No. 481/2024) Akash Dubey Vs Union of India & Ors and legal notices/complaints received regarding the DSR.

The SEAC-1 & 2 examined the Joint Committee reports submitted in Original Application No. 109 of 2024. The Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024, which includes representatives from SEIAA and Regional Officer, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh. SEAC-1 & 2 observed that the Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024 explicitly states that there are no mineral deposits in Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02 located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. The area consists of soil and plain land situated at the outer reach of the rear end of the riverbank, with a low likelihood of mineral occurrences. Similarly, the other Joint Committee report dated 05/07/2024 has also not provided the exact amount of Mineable Mineral at Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02, located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.

Observing the above reports as well as the Sand Management Guidelines – 2016 & Enforcement and Management Guidelines for Sand Mining – 2020 which provide a framework for sustainable sand and gravel mining, the committee recommends to approved rest 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned in Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonebhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra.

The Secretariat also informed the joint committee that the matter was listed in 884th SEIAA meeting dated 02/04/2025 and decided as follows:

"SEIAA noted that during appraisal of DSR of Sonebhadra SEAC 1 & 2 in its joint meeting dated 03.12.2024 examined the Joint Committee reports submitted in Original Application No. 109 of 2024. The Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024, which included representative from SEIAA (Prof. Jaswant Singh Member, SEAC) and Regional Officer, Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh. SEAC-1 & 2 observed that the Joint Committee report dated 05/03/2024 explicitly states that there are no mineral deposits in Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02 located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh. The area consists of soil and plain land situated at the outer

reach of the rear end of the riverbank, with a low likelihood of mineral occurrences. Similarly, the other Joint Committee report dated 05/07/2024 has also not provided the exact amount of Mineable Mineral at Arazi No. 15, Cha, Khand No. 02, located in Village Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, District Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh.

Observing the above reports as well as the Sand Management Guidelines – 2016 & Enforcement and Management Guidelines for Sand Mining – 2020 which provide a framework for sustainable sand and gravel mining, the committee recommended to approve rest 26 leases mentioned in the proposed DSR except the lease mentioned in Serial No. 20 (Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonebhadra) of the District Survey Report (DSR) of District-Sonebhadra.

The above case was taken in its 864th SEIAA meeting dated 17.12.2024 and 872nd meeting dated 28.02.2025 in which:

SEIAA reviewed the letter from the District Magistrate, Sonbhadra (Letter No. 2508/Khanij/DSR-Morum/2024-25) dated 15-02-2025 regarding Gata No. 15 Cha, Khand No. 02, Village Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra.

SEIAA also referred to the deliberations of its 864th meeting held on 17-12-2024, wherein it was observed:

“... SEIAA noticed that the reports dated 15.03.2024, 05.07.2024 and 27.09.2024 do not address the question of mineral availability at the site. Hence SEIAA agreed to refer the matter to DM, Sonebhadra to get it examined by a committee of- Mining Officer Sonebhadra, a representative of DM, Sonebhadra, not below the rank of ADM, and a soil scientist belonging to a reputed agriculture university of State or the Center. The Committee was tasked with examining the area based on ocular as well as soil profile examination and photographs and videos were to be attached with the report. The report was to be submitted within three weeks.

SEIAA noted that, in response to this directive, the District Magistrate, Sonbhadra, via Letter No. 2301/Khanij/2025 dated 13-01-2025, constituted a committee comprising:

1. A nominated Soil Scientist from the Registrar, BHU Varanasi,
2. ADM (F/R), Sonbhadra, and
3. Senior Mining Officers, Sonbhadra.

SEIAA has reviewed the report of the committee and observed that the geo-coordinates of the lease area inspected have not been mentioned in the report. In light of the above, SEIAA opined that a letter should be sent to the District Magistrate, Sonebhadra, directing to ensure that the geo-coordinates of the lease area are clearly mentioned in the report of the committee constituted vide its order dated 13.01.2025.

DM Sonebhadra vide letter no. 2818/khanij/2025 dated 26.03.2025 has submitted the report of joint committee. Hence SEIAA opined that to refer the report to SEAC for examination and recommendation.”

The joint committee also noted that Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi passed an order dated 03/03/2025 in Original Application No. 84/2025 (I.A. No. 142/2025) Akhilesh Kumar Vs. State of U.P. & Ors. The operative part of the order as follows:

“ ...

6. He submits that in terms of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of The State of Bihar & Ors. v. Pawan Kumar & Ors. dated 10.11.2021 the SEAC ought to have directed for use of modern technology. Referring to the clause 8(2) of the EIA Notification dated 2006, he

has submitted if there was a conflict in the views of the SEAC and SEIAA then SEIAA instead of forming a Joint Committee ought to have referred the matter back to the SEAC with due reasons. He submits that though no mineable mineral exists in the said lease area yet the SEIAA is in the process of issuing the lease for that area.

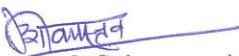
7. Issue notice to the Respondents for filing their reply by way of affidavit.

8. The Applicant is directed to serve the Respondents and file affidavit of service at least one week before next date of hearing.

9. List on 30.05.2025."

The joint committee discussed the matter in depth and opined that the report of the committee constituted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority must be sent to the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Lucknow for comments in light of Supreme Court order dated 10/11/2021 passed in Civil Appeal No. 3661-3662 of 2022 The State of Bihar and others Vs. Pawan Kumar and others & Ors. The committee directed that the matter should be sent to SEIAA for information and doing needful (in hard copy only).

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks of Chairman.


(Om Prakash Srivastava)
Member, SEAC-1


(Dr. Brij Bihari Awasthi)
Member, SEAC-1


(Dr. Shiv Om Singh)
Member, SEAC-2


(Tanzar Ullah Khan)
Member, SEAC-2

(Dr. Dineshwar Prasad Singh)
Member, SEAC-2


(Umesh Chand Sharma,
Member, SEAC-1


(Dr. Ratan Kar)
Member, SEAC-1


(Sushant Sharma, IFS)
Member Secretary, SEAC-1 & 2


(Dr. Harikesh Bahadur Singh)
Chairman, SEAC-2


(Rajive Kumar)
Chairman, SEAC-1

State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Uttar Pradesh

Directorate of Environment, U.P.

Vineet Khand-1, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow - 226 010

Phone : 91-522-2300 541, Fax : 91-522-2300 543

E-mail : doeuplko@yahoo.com

Website : www.seiaaup.com

Minutes of the 904th Meeting of the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, UP (SEIAA) held on 31-05-2025 Part-A

The meeting of 904th State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, UP (SEIAA) was held online on 31.05.2025 Part-A the Directorate of Environment. The following were present in the meeting: -

1. Smt. Mamta Sanjeev Dubey	Chairman, SEIAA, U.P
2. Shri Paras Nath	Member, SEIAA, U.P
3. Shri Ajay Kumar Sharma	Member Secretary, SEIAA, U.P

Agenda-A- General Decision

1. Sand/Morrum Mining Project at bank of Yamuna River, Gata No-299,300,305, 306, 325mi, 326mi, 327 mi, Village- Adhawal, Tehsil- Fatehpur, District- Fatehpur, State-UP By M/s Anantadrishti Multiventures L.L.P, Area- 15 ha., 9363/5252/SIA/UP/MIN/479766/2024.

SEIAA noted that the above project was taken in its 892nd meeting in which SEIAA opined to get clarification from Mining Department and project proponent regarding current status of mining plan and its validity and the situation of part or whole of lease being under water. DMO, Fatehpur vide letter no. 524/khanij-Adhawal A-1/2025-26 dated 17.05.2025 has informed that:-

अनन्तादृष्टि मल्टीवेंचर्स एल०एल०पी०, पता-सॉप नं०-3 राधे गोविन्द काम्पलेक्स, धरमशाला, रोड भीलवाड़ा राजस्थान, स्थान, श्रीमती उषा तोमर पत्नी श्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर, आई०-2 आई०-26 बापूनगर भीलवाला राजस्थान के पक्ष में जनपद फतेहपुर की तहसील सदर स्थित ग्राम अढ़ावल के बालू/मोरम खण्ड सं०-ए-1 की गाटा संख्या-299, 300, 305, 306, 325 मि०, 326मि, 327 मि० रकबा 15.00 हे० में दिनांक 02.11.2020 से 01.11.2025 तक 05 वर्ष की अवधि हेतु स्वीकृत/निष्पादित है।

“उक्त खनन पट्टे के सम्बन्ध में परियोजना प्रस्तावक द्वारा प्रस्तुत अनुमोदित खनन योजना सं०-1396/मा० प्लान/2017 दिनांक 02.12.2019, SEIAA द्वारा पुनः पर्यावरण स्वच्छता प्रमाण पत्र निर्गत होने के दिनांक से खनन पट्टा समाप्ति के दिनांक 01.11.2025 तक वैध रहेगा। उक्त खनन पट्टा क्षेत्र वर्तमान में रिक्त है एवं खनन पट्टा का सम्पूर्ण क्षेत्रफल रकबा 15.00हे० सूखा है। स्वीकृत क्षेत्र में नदी की जलधारा अथवा स्वीकृत क्षेत्र Water Locked नहीं है।”

SEIAA opined to accept the recommendation of SEAC and grant EC to the said project along with all the general and specific conditions as suggested by SEAC taking into consideration discussion held in SEIAA meeting no. 597 dated 05.05.2022

regarding reply of SEAC-1 and SEAC-2 for compliance/action taken on TOR/Public hearing and 703th SEIAA meeting regarding replenishment study, adding following specific conditions:-

1. Validity period of this EC is 01.11.2025.
2. Directions/suggestions given during public hearing and commitment made by the project proponent on these should be strictly complied with.
3. DSR formulation is done by a sub-committee formed at District level and representative of Forest Department is a member in this sub-committee, so it is expected that they examine the issue of distance of forest area from the mining lease as well as distance of protected area from the mining lease. Hence, a certificate signed by an officer not below the rank of ACF shall be submitted before signing lease deed that no forest land is involved in mining or as a route for mineral transportation and does not lie with-in any Protected area, National Park, Sanctuary and ESZ. If forest land is involved the project proponent shall obtain forest clearance and permission of Central and State Government as per the provisions of Van Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan Adhinyam, 2023 and submit before the start of work.
4. The mining lease holders shall ensure to comply with mine reclamation plan as submitted.
5. Stream will not be diverted to form inactive channel for mining.
6. Project Proponent should submit action plan for carrying out plantation at least @1,000 plants / ha of lease area. In this case, PP should prepare a plan, duly approved either by Forest Department or district plantation committee, for planting at least 15,000 plants, either on government land or community land, within a periphery of 5 km from the boundary of the lease area and will make provision for maintenance for 5 years.
7. Also, the coordinates of area earmarked for plantation should be clearly spelt out and polygon should be attached and submitted within a month. Plantation of saplings shall be carried out in earmarked area as part of tree plantation campaign "Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam" and the details of the same shall be uploaded in the Meri LiFE Portal (<https://merilife.nic.in>) as per OM no. F.No.IA3-22/3/2024-IA.III (E-241594) dated 24.07.2024.
8. Survival of plants should not be less than the survival rate notified by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department otherwise it will be treated as violation of EC condition.
9. The project proponent shall ensure that water bodies do not get polluted due to mining activity.
10. Department of Geology and Mines, Government of Uttar Pradesh and/or concerned district administration, before releasing the security deposit to Project Proponent will ensure that Project Proponent has fully complied with the EC conditions. Non-compliance, if any, should be reported to UPSPCB for appropriate legal action and recovery of compensation.
11. Any application for transfer of this EC, during its validity period unless it is cancelled by a competent authority, has to be necessarily accompanied with status of compliance of EC conditions duly certified by IRO, MoEFCC, Gol, Lucknow.

12. The project proponent shall install rooftop solar plant in one school in the vicinity of project area and construct toilets especially in girls' school as part of CER activity.
13. Since large number of mining projects are ongoing as well as new mining leases are coming up in the district, CAAQMS shall be installed in consultation with UPPCB.
14. **Project Proponent shall submit the Six-monthly Compliance on the Environment Clearance condition prescribed in the Prior Environment Clearance letter as per MoEF&CC OM F.no- IAS-22/01/2022-IA-III (E-172624) Dated 14-06-2022.**
15. This EC shall be subject to any order from any court/tribunal or any guidelines issued by MOEFCC.
16. In case of violation of any EC conditions, this EC is liable to be cancelled based on report/recommendation of DM/IRO/UPPCB.

2. Discussion of District Magistrate, Sonbhadra letter dated 26.03.2025 regarding Riverbed "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 च, Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh, Area 12.146 ha., 8280/7891/SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023

SEIAA noted that the above project was taken in its 884th meeting in which SEIAA opined that letter no. 2818/khanij/2025 dated 26.03.2025 of DM Sonbhadra shall be referred to SEAC for examination and recommendation. SEAC in its joint meeting dated 19.05.2025 discussed the matter in depth and opined that the report of the committee constituted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority must be sent to the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Lucknow for comments in light of Supreme Court order dated 10.11.2021 passed in Civil Appeal no. 3661-3662 of 2020 the state of Bihar and others Vs. Pawan Kumar and others.

SEIAA noted that DM, Sonbhadra vide letter no. 2508//khanij/DSR-Morrum/2024-25 dated 15.02.2025 has submitted the report done by Surveyor, Mining Department, Sonbhadra, Senior Mining Officers, Sonbhadra. The report states that:

नियत तिथि दिनांक 03.02.2025 को (1)- प्रो० जनार्दन यादव, मृदा एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग, बी०एच०यू०, वाराणसी (2)- अपर जिलाधिकारी (वि०/रा०) सोनभद्र, (3)- ज्येष्ठ खान अधिकारी सोनभद्र व (4) सर्वेक्षक खनिज विभाग सोनभद्र द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से क्षेत्र की जाँच की गयी। जाँचोपरान्त प्रो० जनार्दन, मृदा एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग द्वारा अपने पत्र सं०- Agrichem./2024-25/L/ दिनांक 05.02.2025 द्वारा उपरोक्त क्षेत्र जनपद-सोनभद्र की तहसील-ओबरा स्थित ग्राम-भगवा के आराजी संख्या- 15च (खण्ड-2) रकबा- 12.146 हे० हेतु लिये गये सेम्पल का वैज्ञानिक परीक्षण कर आख्या प्रस्तुत की गयी है, जिसमें उल्लिखित है कि जनपद के तहसील-ओबरा में स्थित ग्राम-भगवा के आराजी सं०-15च (खण्ड-2) रकबा- 12.146 हे० में बालू/मोरम का सर्वेक्षण दिनांक 03.02.2025 को किया गया। पूरे रकबे में लगभग 3 से 4 मीटर गहराई के 5 गढ़े खोदवा कर बालू/मोरम का सेम्पल किया गया तथा इन सेम्पल का परीक्षण मृदा विज्ञान एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग में हाइड्रोमीटर विधि (हिन्ना एट०आल० 1980) से बालू, सिल्ट और क्ले की प्रतिशत मात्रा ज्ञात किया गया। पाँचों सेम्पल में बालू/मोरम 95.70 से 95.74 प्रतिशत पाया गया तथा औसत रूप से बालू/मोरम 95.72 प्रतिशत तथा सिल्ट+क्ले 4.28 प्रतिशत था। इस डाटा से यह साबित होता है कि उक्त रकबा कृषि के लिये अनुपयुक्त है, क्योंकि इसमें बालू की मात्रा बहुत अधिक है।

Minutes of the 904th Meeting of the SEIAA, UP held on 31.05.2025 Part-A

According to above report 95.72% of sand/morrum is present and land is not fit for agriculture. Hence SEIAA opined that this report which is based on soil profile study as well as chemical analysis clearly shows that there is mineable mineral available in the mine under consideration. SEAC has recommended for inclusion of this area in DSR. Hence SEIAA agreed to include this area in the DSR of Sonebhadra.

3. Application for stoping illegal mining by (M/s Veera construction proprietor Shri Rameshwar Pratap) in Sonbhadra as per the order of the Hon'ble NGT dated 23.04.2025. Regarding Sand/Morrum Mining along Sone River bed in Gata No./Arazi No.-21 mi, Khand No.- 01, Village-Bhagwa, Tehsil-Obra, Sonbhadra., Shri Rameshwar Pratap, M/s Veera Construction, Area-14.98 Ha. File No. 6262/Proposal No. SIA/UP/MIN/61527/2021.

SEIAA gone through the letter no. 246/khanij/2025 dated 14.05.2025 of DM, Sonbhadra regarding the above subject. SEIAA opined that information like quantity available as per replenishment study for the year 2023-2024, 2024-2025, quantity mined during these years along with page no. in DSR shall be sought from Directorate of Geology and Mining Department for all the leases covered in SEIAA minutes dated 31.12.2022.

Nodal Officer**SEIAA, UP**

MoM prepared by Secretariat in consultation with Chairman & Members on the basis of decisions taken by SEIAA during the meeting.



(Smt. Mamta Sanjeev Dubey)
Chairman
SEIAA

(Ajay Kumar Sharma)
Member-Secretary
SEIAA

(Paras Nath)
Member
SEIAA

ANNEXURE -4

प्रेषक,

सदस्य सचिव,
एस0ई0आई0ए0ए0,
पर्यावरण निदेशालय, उ0प्र0,
विनीत खण्ड-1, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ-226010

सेवा में,

निदेशक,
भूतत्व एवं खनिकर्म, विभाग, उ0प्र0,
लखनऊ

पत्रांक : 36 / पर्या. / 8280-7891 / 2023

दिनांक 09 जून, 2025

विषय:- Riverbed "Morrum Mining" on the riverbed of Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 च , Khand No. 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh, Area 12.146 ha., 8280/7891/SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023 को अनुमोदित डी0एस0आर0 में सम्मिलित किये जाने के सम्बन्ध।

महोदय,

कृपया उपरोक्त विषय पर राज्य स्तरीय पर्यावरण प्रभाव निर्धारण प्राधिकरण, उ0प्र0 की 904वीं बैठक दिनांक 31.05.2025 (पार्ट-1) में विचार कर निम्नवत् संस्तुति की गई :-

SEIAA noted that the above project was taken in its 884th meeting in which SEIAA opined that letter no. 2818/khanij/2025 dated 26.03.2025 of DM Sonbhadra shall be referred to SEAC for examination and recommendation. SEAC in its joint meeting dated 19.05.2025 discussed the matter in depth and opined that the report of the committee constituted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority must be sent to the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Lucknow for comments in light of Supreme Court order dated 10.11.2021 passed in Civil Appeal no. 3661-3662 of 2020 the state of Bihar and others Vs. Pawan Kumar and others.

SEIAA noted that DM, Sonbhadra vide letter no. 2508//khanij/DSR-Morrum/2024-25 dated 15.02.2025 has submitted the report done by Surveyor, Mining Department, Sonbhadra, Senior Mining Officers, Sonbhadra. The report states that:

नियत तिथि दिनांक 03.02.2025 को (1)- प्रो० जनार्दन यादव, मृदा एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग, बी0एच0यू0, वाराणसी (2)- अपर जिलाधिकारी (वि०/रा०) सोनभद्र, (3)- ज्येष्ठ खान अधिकारी सोनभद्र व (4) सर्वेक्षक खनिज विभाग सोनभद्र द्वारा संयुक्त रूप से क्षेत्र की जाँच की गयी। जॉचोपरान्त प्रो० जनार्दन, मृदा एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग द्वारा अपने पत्र सं०- Agrichem./2024-25/L/ दिनांक 05.02.2025 द्वारा उपरोक्त क्षेत्र जनपद-सोनभद्र की तहसील-ओबरा स्थित ग्राम-भगवा के आराजी संख्या- 15च (खण्ड-2) रकबा- 12.146 हे० हेतु लिये गये सेम्पल का वैज्ञानिक परीक्षण कर आख्या प्रस्तुत की गयी है, जिसमें उल्लिखित है कि जनपद के तहसील-ओबरा में स्थित ग्राम-भगवा के आराजी सं०-15च (खण्ड-2) रकबा- 12.146 हे० में बालू/मोरम का सर्वेक्षण दिनांक 03.02.2025 को किया गया। पूरे रकबे में लगभग 3 से 4 मीटर गहराई के 5 गद्दे खोदवा कर बालू/मोरम का सेम्पल किया गया तथा इन सेम्पल का परीक्षण मृदा विज्ञान एवं कृषि रसायन विभाग में हाइड्रोमीटर विधि (हिन्ना एट०आल० 1980) से बालू, सिल्ट और क्ले की प्रतिशत मात्रा ज्ञात किया गया। पांचो सेम्पल में बालू/मोरम 95.70 से 95.74 प्रतिशत पाया गया तथा औसत रूप से बालू/मोरम 95.72 प्रतिशत तथा सिल्ट+क्ले 4.28 प्रतिशत था। इस डाटा से यह साबित होता है कि उक्त रकबा कृषि के लिये अनुपयुक्त है, क्योंकि इसमें बालू की मात्रा बहुत अधिक है।

According to above report 95.72% of sand/morrum is present and land is not fit for agriculture. Hence SEIAA opined that this report which is based on soil profile study as well as chemical analysis clearly shows that there is mineable mineral available in the mine under consideration. SEAC has recommended for inclusion of this area in DSR. Hence SEIAA agreed to include this area in the Approved DSR of Sonebhadra.

प्राधिकरण की बैठक में लिये गये निर्णय के आलोक में सम्बन्धित कार्यवृत्त की प्रति इस अनुरोध के साथ प्रेषित है कि उक्त के सम्बन्ध में आवश्यक कार्यवाही करने का कष्ट करें।

संलग्नक- यथोक्त।

प्रतिलिपि- जिलाधिकारी, सोनभद्र को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित।

भवदीय,



(अजय कुमार शर्मा)

सदस्य सचिव,

एस0ई0आई0ए0ए0

(अजय कुमार शर्मा)

सदस्य सचिव,

एस0ई0आई0ए0ए0

ENVIRONMENTAL
CLEARANCE

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment
Authority(SEIAA), UTTAR PRADESH)

To,

The -1
 RUDRA MINING AND COMPANY
 Village- Devgarh, Post-Shivdwar ,Ghorawal
 District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh
 -231210

Subject: Grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to the proposed Project Activity under the provision of EIA Notification 2006-regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Environmental Clearance (EC) in respect of project submitted to the SEIAA vide proposal number SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023 dated 21 Sep 2023. The particulars of the environmental clearance granted to the project are as below.

1. EC Identification No.	EC25B001UP167874
2. File No.	8280-7891
3. Project Type	New
4. Category	B
5. Project/Activity including Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals
6. Name of Project	Bhagwa Morrur Mining Project on Sone River
7. Name of Company/Organization	RUDRA MINING AND COMPANY
8. Location of Project	UTTAR PRADESH
9. TOR Date	N/A

The project details along with terms and conditions are appended herewith from page no 2 onwards.

Date: 16/12/2025

(e-signed)
 Manish Mittal (IFS)
 Member Secretary
 SEIAA - (UTTAR PRADESH)

Note: A valid environmental clearance shall be one that has EC identification number & E-Sign generated from PARIVESH. Please quote identification number in all future correspondence.

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 (Pro-Active and Responsive Facilitation by Interactive,
 and Virtuous Environmental Single-Window Hub)





State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Uttar Pradesh

Directorate of Environment, U.P.

Vineet Khand-1, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow- 226010

E-Mail- doeuplko@yahoo.com, seiaaup@yahoo.com

Phone no- 0522-2300541

Reference- MoEFCC Proposal no SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023 & SEIAA, U.P File no-8280/7891

Sub: Environmental Clearance for Morrum Mining Project on Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 च, Khand No.- 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh of M/s Rudra Mining And Company, Prop. Shri Bhupendra Pratap Singh., (Area- 12.146 ha)

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to your application / letter 21-9-2023 above mentioned subject. The matter was considered by 955th SEAC in meeting held on 29-09-2025 and 927th SEIAA in meeting held on 05-12-2025.

A presentation was made by the project proponent along with their consultant M/s Aegis Environment Research Pvt. Ltd to SEAC on 29-9-2025.

Project Details Informed by the Project Proponent and their Consultant

The project proponent, through the documents and presentation gave following details about their project –

1. The environmental clearance is sought for Morrum Mining Project on Sone River at Arazi No.- 15 च, Khand No.- 02, Village- Bhagwa, Tehsil- Obra, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh of M/s Rudra Mining And Company, Prop. Shri Bhupendra Pratap Singh., (Area- 12.146 ha)
2. The Terms of Reference in the matter were issued by SEIAA, U.P vide Letter No. 146/Parya/SEIAA/7891/2023 dated 01 July, 2023.
3. The Public Hearing was organized on 05/09/2023. Final EIA report submitted by the project proponent on 21/09/2023.
4. Salient features of the project as submitted by the project proponent:

1.	On-line proposal No.	SIA/UP/MIN/445239/2023
2.	File No. allotted by SEIAA, UP	8280/7891
3.	Date of Letter of Intent (Lol) issued by DGM	4026/खनिज/2023. Date: 16.02.2023
4.	Date of approval of Mining Plan	Letter No. 197968 Date: 18.04.2023
5.	Name of Proponent	M/s Rudra Mining And Company, Prop. Shri Bhupendra Pratap Singh
6.	Full correspondence address of proponent	R/o- R/o Village- Devgarh, Post- Shividwar, Ghorawal, District- Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh
		Mobile No-
		Email-
7.	Name of Project	BhagwaMorrum Mining Project on Sone River
8.	Project location (Plot/Khasra/Gata No.)	Arazi No. 15 च, Khand No. 02
9.	Name of Village	Bhagwa
10.	Tehsil	Obra
11.	District	Sonbhadra
12.	Name of Minor Mineral	Morrum
13.	Sanctioned Lease Area (in Ha.)	12.146 Ha
14.	Max & Min mRL within lease area	Max- 173.0 mRL and Min- 171mRL

15.	Pillar Coordinates (Verified by DMO)	Sanctioned Mining Lease Area		
		Pillar No.	Latitude	Longitude
		A	24°31'56.51"N	82°59'15.58"E
		B	24°32'2.93"N	82°59'27.23"E
		C	24°31'53.16"N	82°59'34.37"E
D	24°31'48.53"N	82°59'23.81"E		
16.	Total Geological Reserves	3,34,377Cum		
17.	Total Mineable Reserves	2,18,628 Cum		
18.	Total Proposed Production (in 5 years)	10,93,140 Cum		
19.	Proposed Production/year	2,18,628 Cum/year		
20.	Sanctioned Period of Mine lease	5 years		
21.	No. of workers	55		
22.	Type of Land	Government waste land		
23.	Ultimate Depth of Mining	2.0 m		
24.	Nearest metalled road from site	SH 5A Approx. 2.70 km towards E direction.		
25.	Water Requirement	Purpose	Requirement (KLD)	
		Drinking	0.55	
		Suppression of dust	7.46	
		Plantation	12.14	
		Toilet	0.55	
Total	20.7			
26.	Name of QCI Accredited Consultant with QCI No and period of validity.	Aegis Environment Research Pvt. Ltd. Certificate No. NABET/EIA/25-28/IA 0153, Validity- 29/01/2028		
27.	Any litigation pending against the project or land in any court	Yes		
28.	Details of 500 m Cluster Map & certificate issued by Mining Officer	Yes, certified Letter No. 4129/खनिज/2023 dated: 25/02/2023		
29.	Details (Page no.) of mining lease area, Geo coordinates & Mineable quantity mentioned in approved DSR	Yes, mining lease area & Mineable quantity mentioned in approved DSR at Annexure No. II Page No. 79, Sl. No. 19 & Geo coordinates given in the DSR at Annexure No. A Page No. 92 Sl. No. 20.		
30.	Proposed EMP cost	EMP Recurring Cost- 31,00,000/- including CER		
31.	Length and breadth of Haul Road	Length: 622 m, width: 6 m		
32.	No. of Trees to be Planted	12146		
33.	Monitoring Period	1 st March to 31 th May 2023		

5. Action Plan as per Ministry's O.M. dated 30/09/2020:

Sr. No.	Activity	Capital Cost(in Rs.)	Quantity
1.	Installation of solar street lights at Village- Bhagwa	10,00,000	10
2.	Installation of computers in Primary School, Bhagwa Village	5,00,000	10
3.	Skill Development Program for local people of Village- Bhagwa	5,00,000	For 50 Person
	Total	20,00,000	

6. The mining would be restricted to unsaturated zone only above the phreatic water table and will not intersect the ground water table at any point of time.

7. This project does not attract any of the general conditions applicable on mining projects specified in EIA Notification 14/09/2006.
8. The mining operation will not be carried out in safety zone of any bridge or embankment or in eco-fragile zone such as habitat of any wild fauna.
9. There is no litigation pending in any court regarding this project.
10. The project proposal falls under category-1(a) of EIA Notification, 2006 (as amended).

In compliance of order dated 03.11.2025 passed by Hon'ble NGT in OA no. 547 of 2025 Akhilesh Kumar vs. Union of India & Ors, the parties were given opportunity for personal hearing on 24.11.2025 before SEIAA. SEIAA after detailed deliberation and considering the facts submitted by both the parties and based on SEAC recommendation dated 29.09.2025, SEIAA in its meeting held on 05.12.2025 decided to grant EC to the above project for collection of 2,18,628 Cum/year in lease area of 12.146 ha subject to effective implementation of the following General Conditions and specific conditions:-

General Conditions:

1. This environmental clearance is subject to allotment of mining lease in favour of project proponent by District Administration/Mining Department.
2. Forest clearance shall be taken by the proponent as necessary under law.
3. Any change in mining area, khasra numbers, entailing capacity addition with change in process and or mining technology, modernization and scope of working shall again require prior Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 (as amended).
4. Precise mining area will be jointly demarcated at site by project proponent and officials of Mining/Revenue department prior to starting of mining operations. Such site plan, duly verified by competent authority along-with copy of the Environmental Clearance letter will be displayed on a hoarding/board at the site. A copy of site plan will also be submitted to SEIAA within a period of 02 months.
5. Mining and loading shall be done only within day hours' time.
6. No mining shall be carried out in the safety zone of any bridge and/or embankment.
7. It shall be ensured that standards related to ambient air quality/effluent as prescribed by the Ministry of Environment & Forests are strictly complied with. Water sprinklers and other dust control majors should be applied to take-care of dust generated during mining operation. Sprinkling of water on haul roads to control dust will be ensured by the project proponent.
8. All necessary statutory clearances shall be obtained before start of mining operations. If this condition is violated, the clearance shall be automatically deemed to have been cancelled.
9. Parking of vehicles should not be made on public places.
10. No tree-felling will be done in the leased area, except only with the permission of Forest Department.
11. No wildlife habitat will be infringed.
12. It shall be ensured that excavation of minor mineral does not disturb or change the underlying soil characteristics of the river bed /basin, where mining is carried out.
13. It shall be ensured that mining operation of Sand/Moram will not in any way disturb the, velocity and flow pattern of the river water significantly.
14. It shall be ensured that there is no fauna dependant on the river bed or areas close to mining for its nesting. A report on the same, vetted by the competent authority shall be submitted to the RO, PCB and SEIAA within 02 months.
15. Primary survey of flora and fauna shall be carried out and data shall be submitted to the RO, PCB and SEIAA within six months.
16. Hydro-geological study shall be carried out by a reputed organization/institute within six months and establish that mining in the said area will not adversely affect the ground water

regime. The report shall be submitted to the RO, PCB and SEIAA within six months. In case adverse impact is observed /anticipated, mining shall not be carried out.

17. Adequate protection against dust and other environmental pollution due to mining shall be made so that the habitations (if any) close by the lease area are not adversely affected. The status of implementation of measures taken shall be reported to the RO, UPPCB and SEIAA and this activity should be completed before the start of sand mining.
18. Need-based assessment for the nearby villages shall be conducted to study economic measures which can help in improving the quality of life of economically weaker section of society. Income generating projects/tools such as development of fodder farm, fruit bearing orchards, vocational training etc. can form a part of such program me. The project proponent shall provide separate budget for community development activities and income generating programmes.
19. Green cover development shall be carried out following CPCB guidelines including selection of plant species and in consultation with the local DFO/Horticulture Officer.
20. Separate stock piles shall be maintained for excavated top soil, if any, and the top soil should be utilized for green cover/tree plantation.
21. Dispensary facilities for first-aid shall be provided at site.
22. An Environmental Audit should be annually carried out during the operational phase and submitted to the SEIAA.
23. The District Mining Officer should quarterly monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project proponent will extend full cooperation to the District Mining Officer by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports. In case of any violations of stipulated conditions the District Mining Officer will report to SEIAA.
24. The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard & soft copies) to the SEIAA, the District Officer and the respective Regional Office of the State Pollution Control Board by 1st June and 1st December every year.
25. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila Parisad/ Municipal Corporation and Urban Local Body.
26. Transportation of materials shall be done by covering the trucks / tractors with tarpaulin or other suitable mechanism to avoid fugitive emissions and spillage of mineral/dust.
27. Waste water, from temporary habitation campus be properly collected & treated before discharging into water bodies the treated effluent should conform to the standards prescribed by MoEF/CPCB.
28. Measures shall be taken for control of noise level to the limits prescribed by C.P.C.B.
29. Special Measures shall be adopted to protect the nearby settlements from the impacts of mining activities. Maintenance of Village roads through which transportation of minor minerals is to be undertaken, shall be carried-out by the project proponent regularly at his own expenses.
30. Measure for prevention & control of soil erosion and management of silt shall be undertaken. Protection of dumps against erosion, if any, shall be carried-out with geo textile matting or other suitable material.
31. Under corporate social responsibility a sum of 5% of the total project cost or total income whichever is higher is to be earmarked for total lease period. Its budget is to be separately maintained. CER component shall be prepared based on need of local habitant. Income generating measures which can help in upliftment of poor section of society, consistent with the traditional skills of the people shall be identified. The programme can include activities such as development of fodder farm, fruit bearing orchards, free distribution of smokeless Chula etc.
32. Possibility for adopting nearest three villages shall be explored and details of civic amenities such as roads, drinking water etc proposed to be provided at the project proponent's

expenses shall be submitted within 02 months from the date of issuance of Environment Clearance.

33. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, GoI, Lucknow, SEIAA, U.P and UPPCB.
34. Action plan with respect to suggestion/improvement and recommendations made and agreed during Public Hearing shall be submitted to the District mines Officer, concern Regional Officer of UPPCB and SEIAA within 02 months.
35. Environmental clearance is subject to obtaining clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the competent authority, if applicable to this project.
36. The proponent shall observe every 15 day for nesting of any turtle in the area. Based on the observations so made, if turtle nesting is observed, necessary safeguard measures shall be taken in consultation with the State Wildlife Department. For the purpose, awareness shall be created amongst the workers about the nesting sites so that such sites, if any, are identified by the workers during operations of the mine for taking required safeguard measures. In this regards the safety notified zone should be left so that the habitat/nesting area is undisturbed.
37. The project proponent shall undertake adequate safeguard measures during extraction of river bed material and ensure that due to this activity the hydro geological regime of the surrounding area shall not be affected.
38. The project proponent shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent Authorities for withdrawal of requisite quantity of water (surface water and groundwater), required for the project.
39. Appropriate mitigative measures shall be taken to prevent pollution of the river in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. It shall be ensured that there is no leakage of oil and grease in the river from the vehicles used for transportation.
40. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. The vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded.
41. Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. (MoEF circular Dated : 22-09-2008 regarding stipulation of condition to improve the living conditions of construction labour at site).
42. Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
43. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila Parishad/ Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the Company by the proponent.
44. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, GoI, Lucknow by e-mail.
45. The green cover development/tree plantation is to be done in an area equivalent to 20% of the total leased area either on river bank or along road side (Avenue Plantation).
46. Debris from the river bed will be collected and stored at secured place and may be utilized for strengthen the embankment.

47. Safety measures to be taken for the safety of the people working at the mine lease area should be given, which would also include measure for treatment of bite of poisonous reptile/insect like snake.
48. Periodical and Annual medical checkup of workers as per Mines Act and they should be covered under ESI as per rule.

Specific Conditions:

1. Top soil removed during excavation shall be preserved and reused.
2. The project proponent shall comply all orders/directions/guidelines/OM of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Hon'ble High Court, Govt. of India and Govt. of UP. The project proponent shall obtain all the necessary permissions/ approvals from the concerned Govt. Departments/ Authorities/Organizations.
3. The lease is for five years therefore replenishment study is necessary for continuing mining in next year and every subsequent year till the lease period, the study so conducted shall be uploaded on the website of district. Project Proponent and District Mining Officer shall ensure that if mineable quantity mentioned in LOI is amended as per replenishment study, a report verified by DM and DGM shall be submitted to SEIAA and suitable amendment if needed, shall be done in EC. If after replenishment study, mineable quantity assessed is more than the quantity mentioned in EC then mining shall be restricted to the one mentioned in EC and if mineable quantity assessed is less than the quantity mentioned in EC then mining will be restricted to quantity assessed in replenishment study till EC is amended. Under no circumstances mining shall be more than the quantity mentioned in EC or assessed as per replenishment study.
4. Directions/suggestions given during public hearing and commitment made by the project proponent on these should be strictly complied with.
5. DSR formulation is done by a sub-committee formed at District level and representative of Forest Department is a member in this sub-committee, so it is expected that they examine the issue of distance of forest area from the mining lease as well as distance of protected area from the mining lease. Hence, a certificate signed by an officer not below the rank of ACF shall be submitted before signing lease deed that no forest land is involved in mining or as a route for mineral transportation and does not lie with-in any Protected area, National Park, Sanctuary and ESZ. If forest land is involved the project proponent shall obtain forest clearance and permission of Central and State Government as per the provisions of Van Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan Adhiniyam,2023 and submit before the start of work.
6. The mining lease holders shall ensure to comply with mine reclamation plan as submitted.
7. Stream will not be diverted to form inactive channel for mining.
8. Project Proponent should submit action plan for carrying out plantation at least @1,000 plants / ha of lease area. Also, the coordinates of area earmarked for plantation should be clearly spelt out. Survival of plants should be as per GoUP norms.
9. Plantation of saplings shall be carried out in earmarked area as part of tree plantation campaign "Ek Ped Ma Ke Naam" and the details of the same shall be uploaded in the Meri LiFE Portal (<https://merilife.nic.in>) as per OM no. F.No.IA3-22/3/2024-IA.III (E-241594) dated 24.07.2024.
10. Survival of plants should not be less than the survival rate notified by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department otherwise it will be treated as violation of EC condition.
11. The project proponent shall ensure that water bodies do not get polluted due to mining activity. Water conservation, ground water recharging shall be undertaken as part of CER activities.
12. Department of Geology and Mines, Government of Uttar Pradesh and/or concerned district administration, before releasing the security deposit to Project Proponent will ensure that Project Proponent has fully complied with the EC conditions. Non-compliance, if any, should be reported to UPSPCB for appropriate legal action and recovery of compensation.

13. The project proponent shall install rooftop solar plant in one school in the vicinity of project area and construct toilets especially in girls' school as part of CER activity.
14. Since large number of mining projects are ongoing as well as new mining leases are coming up in the district, CAQM shall be installed in consultation with UPPCB.
15. Project Proponent shall submit the Six-monthly Compliance on the Environment Clearance condition prescribed in the Prior Environment Clearance letter as per MoEF&CC OM F.no- IAS-22/01/2022-IA-III (E-172624) Dated 14-06-2022.
16. If the air quality deteriorates due to mining, then District Administration & Directorate of Mining should ensure that mining be stopped immediately. Adequate measures be taken for restoring air quality and mining should commence only when air quality attains the prescribed standards.
17. Next year the project proponent shall submit online replenishment study report along with 06 monthly compliance report.
18. In case of violation of any EC conditions, this EC is liable to be cancelled based on report/recommendation of DM/IRO/UPPCB.
19. The environmental clearance will be co-terminus with the validity of the lease period mentioned in the Lol or co-terminus with the validity of current mine plan whichever is earlier, after this period the EC will automatically become null and void.
20. Project Proponent should submit action plan for carrying out plantation at least @1,000 plants / ha of lease area. In this case, PP should prepare a plan, duly approved either by Forest Department or District plantation committee, for planting at least (as per the project) plants, either on government land or community land, within a periphery of 5 km from the boundary of the lease area along with provisions for maintenance for 5 years. Survival of plants should not be less than the survival rate notified by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department otherwise it will be treated as violation of EC condition.
21. The project proponent shall install solar lights in their project area to minimise the consumption of electricity.
22. During the submission of 6 monthly compliance reports, the project proponent should make sure that the periodically taken site photographs should also be annexed along with the compliance report.
23. Preference should be given to indigenous local species as per the consultation of the local district Forest Officer/Expert Agency in this field.
24. The maximum height of the bench should be 06 meters and the width of the bench should be at least twice the height of the bench as per the mine plan approval letter by DGM, U.P
25. In case the blasting is proposed during a mining operation, the project proponent needs to assess its impact on the displacement of human beings/wild animals/birds/other species, and the suitable measures proposed and taken for their rehabilitation and resettlement need to be clearly described in first 6 monthly compliance report.
26. The project proponent shall submit a final mine closure plan/Exit protocol for rehabilitation of mined-out land to match its surrounding land use 3 years before the closure of the mine to SEIAA, UP and Department of Mines and Geology, UP for approval. The project proponent shall ensure the implementation of the approved plan under the supervision of the Dept. of Mines and Geology.
27. The project proponent shall plan and implement collection drain and siltation basins of adequate size to arrest the silt and sediment flow from the quarry area. The surface runoff rainwater harvesting and other water conservation measures on a long-term basis are to be taken in consultation with the Central/State Groundwater Board. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the haulage area, roads, and green belt development, etc.
28. The project proponent shall take all suitable measures to prevent pollution of groundwater and nearby water bodies in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board and consent to operate (if applicable) should be obtained from the State Pollution Control Board before the start of production from the mine.

29. Project proponent is directed to invest the CER amount as per the proposal and submit the compliance report regularly to the concerned authority/Directorate of environment.
30. Link Road from the quarry site to the main road shall be constructed as an all-weather road with blacktopping and maintained by the project proponent.
31. Vehicular emissions should be kept under control and regularly monitored. Suitable measures shall be taken for proper maintenance of vehicles used in a quarry operation and transportation.
32. The project proponent should explore the possibilities of rainwater harvesting.
33. Agreement/ Consent between project proponent and competent authority/ landowner for haulage road from lease site to link road.
34. Latest technology (water sprinklers/ tankers) to be adopted for mitigating dust at source points in lease area and haulage road during operational activity/vehicular movement.
35. As per the proposed plan, plantation with area specific plant species, number of plants to be Planted and report of green belt development to be submitted to the Forest Department, UPPCB and Directorate of Environment, UP.
36. In case it has been found that the E.C. obtained by providing incorrect information, submitting that the distance between the two adjoining mines is greater than 500mt. and the area is less than 05 ha, but factually the distance is less than 500 mt, and the mine is located in the cluster of area equal to or more than 05 ha, the E.C issued will stand revoked.
37. Explosive cannot be stored on the site. The Project proponent shall take approval from Chief Controller of Explosive, if applicable for use or storage of explosive or any such materials.
38. Blast vibrations study shall be conducted and an observation report submitted to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, GoI, Lucknow and UPPCB within six months. The report shall also include measures for the prevention of blasting associated impact on nearby houses and agricultural fields.
39. Controlled blasting techniques with sequential blasting shall be adopted. The blasting shall be carried out in the daytime only. The project proponent shall ensure prevention of displacement of human beings/wild animals/birds etc. and in case any such displacement is caused due to blasting/mining operation by any chance the project proponent shall take suitable measures for their rehabilitation and resettlement.
40. Maintenance of village roads used for transportation of minerals is to be done by the company regularly at its own expenses. The link roads from mining area to main road shall be constructed as all-weather road with black topping and maintained by the project proponent.
41. The self-environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third-party environmental audit shall be carried out.
42. Measures for prevention and control of soil erosion and management of silt shall be undertaken. Protection of dumps against erosion shall be carried out with geotextile matting or other suitable material, and thick plantations of native trees and shrubs shall be carried out at the dump slopes. Dumps shall be protected by retaining walls.
43. Ground and surface water, if any in and near the core zone (within 5.0 km of the lease) shall be regularly monitored for contamination and depletion due to mining activity and records maintained. The monitoring data shall be submitted to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, GoI, Lucknow and U.P. Pollution Control Board regularly. Further, monitoring points shall be located between the mine, and drainage in the direction of flow of groundwater shall be set up and records maintained.
44. Fugitive dust generation shall be controlled. Fugitive dust emission shall be regularly monitored at locations of nearest human habitation (including schools and other public amenities located nearest to sources of dust generation as applicable) and records submitted to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, GoI, Lucknow and U.P. Pollution Control Board regularly.
45. Overburden (OB) shall be stacked at the earmarked dump site(s) only and shall not be kept active for long period. The maximum height of the dump shall not exceed 20 m, each stage shall preferably be of a maximum of 10 m and the overall slope of the dump shall not exceed 35°. The

- OB dump shall be backfilled. The OB dumps shall be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface runoff.
46. The slope of the mining bench and ultimate pit limit shall be as per the mining scheme approved by the Indian Bureau of Mines.
 47. Prior permission from the Competent Authority shall be obtained for the extraction of groundwater if any.
 48. A final mine closure plan, along with details of Corpus Fund, shall be submitted to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, GoI, Lucknow and U.P. Pollution Control Board 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.
 49. The blasting will be done only after getting permission from the Mining Department/competent authority.
 50. The Environmental clearance will be co-terminus with the mining lease period/mining plan whichever is earlier.
 51. At the time of operation, project proponent will comply with all the guidelines issued by Government of India/State Govt./District Administration related to Covid-19.
 52. Environment management in according to environmental status and impact of the project.
 53. During the school opening and closing time transportation of minerals will be restricted.
 54. Selection of plants for green belt should be on the basis of pollution removal index. Project proponent should ensure survival of tree saplings. Mortality should be replaced from time to time.
 55. No mining activity should be carried out in-stream channel as per SSMMG, 2016.
 56. Pakkamotorable haul road to be maintained by the project proponent.
 57. A separate Environmental Management Cell with suitable qualified personnel shall be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
 58. Permission from the competent authority regarding evacuation route should be taken.
 59. One month monitoring report of the area for air quality, water quality, Noise level. Besides flora & fauna should be examined twice a week and be submitted within 45 days for a record.
 60. Provision for cylinder to workers should be made for cooking.
 61. The capacity of trucks/tractor for loading purpose will be in tonnes as per Transport Department applicable norms and standard fixed by the Government.
 62. Approach road kaccha is to be made motarable and tree saplings to be planted on both sides of the road. Width of the haul road shall be more than 6 meter.
 63. Indigenous plants should be planted according to CPCB guidelines and in consultation with local Divisional Forest Officer.
 64. The project proponent shall in 2 years conduct detailed replenishment study duly authenticated by a QCI-NABET accredited consultant, and the District Mines Officer.
 65. Provision for two toilets and hand pumps should be made at mining site.
 66. Drinking water for workers would be provided by tankers.
 67. Mining should be done by Bar scalping methods extraction (typically 0.3 -0.6 m or 1 - 2 ft) as per sustainable sand mining management guidelines 2016.
 68. A buffer/safe zone shall be maintained from the habitation as per mining guidelines.
 69. Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) plan shall be prepared by the project proponent and the details of the various heads of expenditure to be submitted as per the guidelines provided in the recent CER notification No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 01/05/2018.
 70. Health/Insurance card, Medical claim, regular health check-up camps, facilities shall be provided to the regular/temporary/Contractual or any base workers. Copy of receipt shall be produced to the Directorate of Environment along with the compliance report.
 71. Measure for conservation of water through rainwater harvesting and cleaning and maintenance of natural surface water bodies of the nearby areas may be considered as one of the activity in CER.

72. The excavated mining material should be carried and transported in such a way that no obstruction to the free flow of water takes place. Suitable measure should be taken and details to be provided to concern Department.
73. Submit annual replenishment report certified by an authorized agency. In case the replenishment is lower than the approved rate of production, then the mining activity / production levels shall be decreased / stopped accordingly till the replenishment is completed.
74. The project proponent shall ensure that if the project area falls within the eco-sensitive zone of National park/ Sanctuary prior permission of statutory committee of National board for wild life under the provision of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 shall be obtained before commencement of work.
75. If in future this lease area becomes part of cluster of equal to or more than 05 ha. then additional conditions based on the EIA shall be imposed. The lease holder shall mandatorily follow cluster conditions otherwise it will amount to violation of E.C. conditions. If the certificate related to cluster provided by the competent authority is found false or incorrect then punitive actions as per law shall be initiated against the authority issuing the cluster certificate.
76. Project falling within 10 KM area of Wild Life Sanctuary is to obtain a clearance from National Board Wild Life (NBWL) even if the eco-sensitive zone is not earmarked.
77. To avoid ponding effect and adverse environmental conditions for sand mining in area, progressive mining should be done as per sustainable sand mining management guidelines 2016.
78. In case it has been found that the E.C. obtained by providing incorrect information, submitting that the distance between the two adjoining mines is greater than 500mt. and area is less than 05 ha, but factually the distance is less than 500 mt and the mine is located in cluster of area equal or more than 05 ha, the E.C issued will stand revoked.
79. The project proponent shall in 2 years conduct detailed replenishment study duly authenticated by a QCI-NABET accredited consultant, and the District Mines Officer which shall form the basis for midterm review of conditions of Environmental Clearance.
80. The mining work will be open-cast and manual/semi mechanized (subject to orders). Heavy machine such as excavator, scooper etc. should not be employed for mining purpose. No drilling/blasting should be involved at any stage.
81. It shall be ensured that there shall be no mining of any type within 03 m or 10% of the width which-ever is less, shall be left on both the banks of precise area to control and avoid erosion of river bank. The mining is confined to extraction of sand/moram from the river bank only.
82. The project proponent shall undertake adequate safeguard measures during extraction of river bank material and ensure that due to this activity the hydro-geological regime of the surrounding area shall not be affected.
83. The project proponent shall adhere to mining in conformity to plan submitted for the mine lease conditions and the Rules prescribed in this regard clearly showing the no work zone in the mine lease i.e. the distance from the bank of river to be left un-worked (Non mining area), distance from the bridges etc. It shall be ensured that no mining shall be carried out during the monsoon season.
84. The project proponent shall ensure that wherever deployment of labour attracts the Mines Act, the provision thereof shall be strictly followed.
85. The project proponent will provide personal protective equipment (PPE) as required, also provide adequate training and information on safety and health aspects. Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.
86. The critical parameters such as PM10, PM2.5, SO2 and NOx in the ambient air within the impact zone shall be monitored periodically. Further, quality of discharged water if any shall also be monitored [(TDS, DO, pH, Fecal Coliform and Total Suspended Solids (TSS)].

87. Effective safeguard measures, such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of particulate matter such as loading and unloading point and all transfer points. Extensive water sprinkling shall be carried out on haul roads.
88. It should be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
89. The extended mining scheme will be submitted by the proponent before expiry of present mining plan.
90. Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring PM10, PM2.5, SO2 and NOx. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
91. Common road for transportation of mineral is to be maintained collectively. Total cost will be shared/worked out on the basis of lease area among users.
92. Proponent will provide adequate sanitary facility in the form of mobile toilets to the labours engaged for the project work.
93. Solid waste material viz., gutkha pouchs, plastic bags, glasses etc. to be generated during project activity will be separately storage in bins and managed as per Solid Waste Management rules.
94. Natural/customary paths used by villagers should not be obstructed at any time by the activities proposed under the project.
95. Digital processing of the entire lease area in the district using remote sensing technique should be done regularly once in three years for monitoring the change of river course by Directorate of Geology and Mining, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh. The record of such study to be maintained and report be submitted to Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Gol, Lucknow, SEIAA, U.P. and UPPCB.
96. The project authorities shall advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at web site of the SEIAA at <http://www.seiaaup.in> and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Gol, Lucknow, CPCB, State PCB.
97. The MoEF&CC/SEIAA or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
98. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
99. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 11 of the National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.
100. Waste water from potable use be collected and reused for sprinkling.
101. A width of not less than 50 meter or 10% width of river can be restricted for mining activities from river bank. A condition can be imposed that mining will be done from river activities from river bank.
102. The quantity mentioned in Lol or quantity mentioned in replenishment study, whichever is less, would be maximum quantity which project proponent may extract. It will be ensured by District Administration and Geology and Mining Department. Directorate of Geology and Mining will ensure conduct of replenishment study from reputed institution for subsequent years in compliance of Hon'ble NGT orders.
103. NOC from Irrigation Department/ Concerning Authority regarding river bed mining to be obtained before start of mining activity.

104. Project Proponent should submit action plan for carrying out plantation at least @1,000 plants / ha of lease area. In this case, PP should prepare a plan, duly approved either by Forest Department or District plantation committee, for planting at least (as per the project) plants, either on government land or community land, within a periphery of 5 km from the boundary of the lease area along with provisions for maintenance for 5 years. Survival of plants should not be less than the survival rate notified by Uttar Pradesh Forest Department otherwise it will be treated as violation of EC condition.
105. The project proponent shall install solar light in their site office.
106. During the submission of 6 monthly compliance reports, the project proponent should make sure that the periodically taken site photographs should also be annexed along with the compliance report.
107. Preference should be given to indigenous local species as per the consultation of the local district Forest Officer.
108. Link Road from the quarry site to the main road shall be constructed as an all-weather road with blacktopping and maintained by the project proponent.
109. Vehicular emissions should be kept under control and regularly monitored. Suitable measures shall be taken for proper maintenance of vehicles used in a quarry operation and transportation.
110. The project proponent should explore the possibilities of rainwater harvesting.
111. Agreement/ Consent between project proponent and competent authority/ landowner for haulage road from lease site to link road.
112. Latest technology (water sprinklers/ tankers) to be adopted for mitigating dust at source points in lease area and haulage road during operational activity/vehicular movement.
113. As per the proposed plan, plantation with area specific plant species, number of plants to be planted and report of green belt development to be submitted to the concerning department
114. Water requirement details along with source of water and the permission/ agreement with the concerning authority/ water supplying agencies to be submitted.
115. Submit the Hydrological study report of lease area that the quantity given in LoI will be mined without affecting the geo-hydrology of the River.

In case of violation, this permission shall automatically deem to be cancelled. Also, in the event of any dispute on ownership or land use of the proposed site, this clearance shall automatically deem to be cancelled.

Any appeal against this EC shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

The above stipulated conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along-with their amendments and rules made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Courts of Law relating to the subject matter.

The project proponent will have to submit approved plans and proposals incorporating the conditions specified in the Environmental Clearance within 03 months of issuance of this clearance. The SEIAA/MoEF reserves the right to revoke the environmental clearance, if conditions stipulated are not implemented to the satisfaction of SEIAA/MoEF. SEIAA may impose additional environmental conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary.

This is to request you to take further necessary action in matter as per provisions of Gazette Notification No. S.O. 1533(E) dated 14/09/2006, as amended and send regular compliance reports to the authority as prescribed in the aforesaid notification.

Copy, through email, for information and necessary action to –

1. Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow (email – psforest2015@gmail.com)
2. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, 3rd Floor, Prithvi-Block, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003 (email – sudheer.ch@gov.in)
3. Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Integ rated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kendriya Bhawan, 5th Floor, Sector “H”, Aliganj, Lucknow – 226020 (email – rocz.lko-mef@nic.in)
4. District Magistrate, Sonbhadra.
5. Member Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, TC-12V, Paryavaran Bhawan, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (email – ms@uppcb.in)
6. Copy to Web Master for uploading on PARIVESH Portal.
7. Copy for Guard File.

(Manish Mittal (IFS))
Member Secretary, SEIAA



Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by: Shri Manish Mittal (IFS)
Designation: Member Secretary
Date and Time: 12/16/2025 1:50:04 PM