



File No: ML/SEAC/SEIAA/PP/WGH/27/2024

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

(Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA),
MEGHALAYA)



Dated 25/07/2024



To,

SIMSANG MARAK
MATCHA-NOKPANTE STONE MINE
ROCHONPARA, WEST GARO HILLS, MEGHALAYA - 794104
stonematcha234@gmail.com

Subject: Grant of Terms of Reference under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Grant of Terms of Reference under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-regarding in respect of project MATCHA-NOKPANTE STONE MINE submitted to Ministry vide proposal number SIA/ML/MIN/466510/2024 dated 29/03/2024.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) TOR Identification No.	TO24B0108ML5165320N
(ii) File No.	ML/SEAC/SEIAA/PP/WGH/27/2024
(iii) Clearance Type	TOR
(iv) Category	B1
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals
(vii) Name of Project	MATCHA-NOKPANTE STONE MINE
(viii) Name of Company/Organization	SIMSANG MARAK
(ix) Location of Project (District, State)	WEST GARO HILLS, MEGHALAYA
(x) Issuing Authority	SEIAA
(xii) Applicability of General Conditions	no
(xiii) Applicability of Specific Conditions	yes

3. In view of the particulars given in the Para 1 above, the project proposal interalia including Form-1(Part A and B) were submitted to the Ministry for an appraisal by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) in the Ministry under the provision of EIA notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments.

4. The above-mentioned proposal has been considered by State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA) in the meeting held on 25/06/2024. The minutes of the meeting and all the Application and documents submitted [(viz.

Form-1 Part A, Part B, Part C EIA, EMP)] are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed by scanning the QR Code above.

5. The brief about the salient features of the project along with environment settings, as submitted by the Project proponent in Form-1 (Part A, B and C)/EIA & EMP Reports/presented during SEIAA are as given below.
6. The Project Proponent, Shri. Simsang Ch. Marak submitted an online application for re-appraisal and grant of fresh Term of Reference vide proposal No.SIA/ML/MIN/466510/2024 for Matcha Nokpante Stone Mine for mining of boulderstone for an area of 0.68 hectare to be used for construction purposes. The project falls under Schedule I (a) of category B2 of EIA Notification 2006. The mining lease area is located at Rochonpara (Matcha Nokpante), P.O: Dhanua, PS: Tura, West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya.
The proposed land is on lease for a period of 10 years vide Deed of Lease which was executed on the 5th June 2017 and certified by the District Registrar, Tura, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya.
The applied area is a Non Forest Land which was confirmed by the Divisional Forest Officer, West, South & South-West Garo Hills (T) Division, Tura vide letter No.B/16/VII/NOC/MMMCR/2207-213 dated Tura, the 17th August, 2017 and renewed Letter of Intent vide letter No.B/16/VII/620-623, dated Tura, the 13th February, 2020 respectively.
The project proponent obtained a cluster certificate from the Divisional Mining Officer, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar vide letter No.DMO-W/MP/15/2023/1166 dated Williamnagar, the 19th January 2024 which states that there are (5) five approved mining plans lying within 500 meters from the applied mining lease area. Hence the applied mining area falls under cluster category since the total area of these six mines is summed up to 24.71 hectares.
The project proponent submitted modification of Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by the Divisional Mining Officer, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar vide letter No.DMOW/MP/49/2020/57 dated Williamnagar, the 10th July 2020. The Mining Plan has been prepared to extract boulder stone at the rate of 25637.7 Tonnes per year with a project cost of Rs.62.7 lakhs and the operations will be open cast, semi-mechanized method of mining.
As per the approved mining plan, the anticipated life of mine is 4.41 years or say approximately 4 years.
The project was already awarded Environmental Clearance by the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority, West Garo Hills District, Tura vide letter No.WGH/DEIAA/EC/2017/10 dated Tura the 23rd October 2018 and also obtained a detailed statement of production for a period of five years from the Divisional Forest Officer, West & South-West Garo Hills (T) Division, Tura vide letter No.B/16/VII/279 dated Tura, the 14th February, 2024.
7. The SEIAA, in its meeting held on 25/06/2024, based on information & clarifications provided by the project proponent and after detailed deliberations recommended the proposal for grant of Terms of Reference under the provision of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof subject to stipulation of specific and general conditions as detailed in Annexure (2).
8. The SEIAA has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and after accepting the recommendations of the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) hereby decided to grant Terms of Reference for instant proposal of M/s. SIMSANG MARAK under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof.
9. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary.
10. The Terms of Reference to the aforementioned project is under provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. It does not tantamount to approvals/consent/permissions etc. required to be obtained under any other Act/Rule/regulation. The Project Proponent is under obligation to obtain approvals /clearances under any other Acts/ Regulations or Statutes, as applicable, to the project.
11. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Copy To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and HoFF Meghalaya, Shillong, for information.

The Secretary to the Govt. Meghalaya, Forests & Environment Department, Shillong, for information.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Territorial, Meghalaya, Shillong for information.

The Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Regional Office, N.E.Z, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Law-u-sib, Lumbatngen, Sawlad, Near M.T.C. workshop, Shillong- 793 021, for information and necessary action.

The Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Mining & Geology Dept., Shillong for information.
The Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Tura for information and necessary action.
The Divisional Forest Officer, West, South and South West Garo Hills (T) Division, Tura for information and necessary action.
The Divisional Mining Officer, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar for information.
The Member Secretary, Meghalaya Pollution Control Board, 'Arden', Lumpyngngad, Shillong – 793 014 for information and necessary action.
The Member Secretary, State Expert Appraisal Committee, Meghalaya for information.

Annexure 1

Specific Terms of Reference for (Mining Of Minerals)

1. Specific Condition

S. No	Terms of Reference
1.1	Site photographs together with photographs and other related details of site visits by resource persons of NABET accredited consultant of project proponent, with their names and profession/designation, together with date(s) of visit, date(s) of data collection including names of instrument/machine actually used in the field, during preparation of EIA report, is to be clearly highlighted in the EIA/EMP report.
1.2	Boundary pillars with the height not less than 2.5 feet above the ground level and 1.5 feet below ground and minimum 8 inches on all face of pillar should be erected.
1.3	GPS coordinates of each pillar should be carved/painted clearly on the pillars with red colour.

Standard Terms of Reference for (Mining of minerals)

1.

S. No	Terms of Reference
1.1	An EIA-EMP Report shall be prepared for peak capacity (.....MTPA)operation in an ML/project area of.....ha based on the generic structure specified in Appendix III of the EIA Notification, 2006.
1.2	An EIA-EMP Report would be prepared for peak capacity operation to cover the impacts and environment management plan for the project specific activities on the environment of the region, and the environmental quality encompassing air, water, land, biotic community, etc. through collection of data and information, generation of data on impacts including prediction modeling for..... MTPA of stone production based on approved project/Mining Plan for.....MTPA. Baseline data collection can be for any season (three months) except monsoon.
1.3	Propoer KML file with pin drop and coordinate of mine at 500-1000 m interval be provided
1.4	A Study area map of the core zone (project area) and 10 km area of the buffer zone (1: 50,000 scale) clearly delineating the major topographical features such as the land use, surface drainage pattern including rivers/streams/nullahs/canals, locations of human habitations, major constructions including railways, roads, pipelines, major industries, mines and other polluting sources. In case of ecologically sensitive areas such as Biosphere Reserves/National Parks/WL Sanctuaries/ Elephant

S. No	Terms of Reference					
	Reserves, forests (Reserved/Protected), migratory corridors of fauna, and areas where endangered fauna and plants of medicinal and economic importance found in the 15 km study area should be given. The above details to be furnished in tabular form also					
1.5	Map showing the core zone delineating the agricultural land (irrigated and un-irrigated, uncultivable land as defined in the revenue records, forest areas (as per records), along with other physical features such as water bodies, etc should be furnished.					
1.6	A contour map showing the area drainage of the core zone and 25 km of the study area (where the water courses of the core zone ultimately join the major rivers/streams outside the lease/project area) should also be clearly indicated in the separate map.					
1.7	Catchment area with its drainage map of 25 km area within and outside the mine shall be provided with names, details of rivers/ riverlet system and its respective order. The map should clearly indicate drainage pattern of the catchment area with basin of major rivers. Diversion of drains/ river need eloboration in form of lengthe, quantity and quality of water to be diverted					
1.8	(Details of mineral reserves, geological status of the study area and the seams to be worked, ultimate working depth and progressive stage-wise working scheme until the end of mine life should be provided on the basis of the approved rated capacity and calendar plans of production from the approved Mining Plan. Geological maps and sections should be included. The Progressive mine development and Conceptual Final Mine Closure Plan should also be shown in figures. Details of mine plan and mine closure plan approval of Competent Authority should be furnished for green field and expansion projects.					
1.9	Details of mining methods, technology, equipment to be used, etc., rationale for selection of specified technology and equipment proposed to be used vis-à-vis the potential impacts should be provided.					
1.10	Impact of mining on hydrology, modification of natural drainage, diversion and channeling of the existing rivers/water courses flowing though the ML and adjoining the lease/project and the impact on the existing users and impacts of mining operations thereon.					
1.11	A detailed Site plan of the mine showing the proposed break-up of the land for mining operations such as the quarry area, OB dumps, green belt, safety zone, buildings, infrastructure, CHP, ETP, Stockyard, township/colony (within and adjacent to the ML), undisturbed area -if any, and landscape features such as existing roads, drains/natural water bodies to be left undisturbed along with any natural drainage adjoining the lease /project areas, and modification of thereof in terms of construction of embankments/bunds, proposed diversion/re-channelling of the water courses, etc., approach roads, major haul roads, etc should be indicated.					
1.12	Original land use (agricultural land/forestland/grazing land/wasteland/water bodies) of the area should be provided as per the tables given below. Impacts of project, if any on the land use, in particular, agricultural land/forestland/grazing land/water bodies falling within the lease/project and acquired for mining operations should be analyzed. Extent of area under surface rights and under mining rights should be specified. Area under Surface Rights <table><tr><th>S.N</th><th>ML/Project Land use</th><th>Area under Surface Rights(ha)</th><th>Area Under Mining Rights(ha)</th><th>Area under Both (ha)</th></tr></table>	S.N	ML/Project Land use	Area under Surface Rights(ha)	Area Under Mining Rights(ha)	Area under Both (ha)
S.N	ML/Project Land use	Area under Surface Rights(ha)	Area Under Mining Rights(ha)	Area under Both (ha)		

S. No	Terms of Reference
	1 Agricultural land 2 Forest Land 3 Grazing Land 4 Settlements 5 Others (specify) S.N. 1 2 3 4 Total Details Buildings Infrastructure Roads Others (specify) Area (ha)
1.13	Study on the existing flora and fauna in the study area (10km) should be carried out by an institution of relevant discipline. The list of flora and fauna duly authenticated separately for the core and study area and a statement clearly specifying whether the study area forms a part of the migratory corridor of any endangered fauna should be given. If the study area has endangered flora and fauna, or if the area is occasionally visited or used as a habitat by Schedule-I species, or if the project falls within 15 km of an ecologically sensitive area, or used as a migratory corridor then a Comprehensive Conservation Plan along with the appropriate budgetary provision should be prepared and submitted with EIA-EMP Report; and comments/observation from the CWLW of the State Govt. should also be obtained and furnished.
1.14	One-season (other than monsoon) primary baseline data on environmental quality - air (PM10, PM2.5, SOx, NOx and heavy metals such as Hg, Pb, Cr, As, etc), noise, water (surface and groundwater), soil - along with one-season met data coinciding with the same season for AAQ collection period should be provided. The detail of NABL/ MoEF&CC certification of the respective laboratory and NABET accreditation of the consultant to be provided.
1.15	Map (1: 50, 000 scale) of the study area (core and buffer zone) showing the location of various sampling stations superimposed with location of habitats, other industries/mines, polluting sources, should be provided. The number and location of the sampling stations in both core and buffer zones should be selected on the basis of size of lease/project area, the proposed impacts in the downwind (air)/downstream (surface water)/groundwater regime (based on flow). One station should be in the upwind/upstream/non-impact/non-polluting area as a control station. The monitoring should be as per CPCB guidelines and parameters for water testing for both ground water and surface water as per ISI standards and CPCB classification wherever applicable. Observed values should be provided along with the specified standards.
1.16	For proper baseline air quality assessment, Wind rose pattern in the area should be reviewed and accordingly location of AAMSQ shall be planned by the collection of air quality data by adequate monitoring stations in the downwind areas. Monitoring location for collecting baseline data should cover overall the 10 km buffer zone i.e. dispersed in 10 km buffer area. In case of expansion, the displayed data of CAAQMS and its comparison with the monitoring data to be provided
1.17	A detailed traffic study along with presence of habitation in 100 mts distance from both side of road, the impact on the air quality with its proper measures and plan of action with timeline for

S. No	Terms of Reference
	widening of road. The project will increase the no. of vehicle along the road which will indirectly contribute to carbon emission so what will be the compensatory action plan should be clearly spell out in EIA/ EMP report.
1.18	The socio-economic study to conducted with actual survey report and a comparative assessment to be provided from the census data should be provided in EIA/ EMP report also occupational status & economic status of the study area and what economically project will contribute should be clearly mention. The study should also include the status of infrastructural facilities and amenities present in the study area and a comparative assessment with census data to be provided and to link it with the initialization and quantification of need based survey for CSR activities to be followed.
1.19	The Ecology and biodiversity study should also indicate the likely impact of change in forest area for surface infrastructural development or mining activity in relation to the climate change of that area and what will be the compensatory measure to be adopted by PP to minimize the impact of forest diversion.
1.20	Baseline data on the health of the population in the impact zone and measures for occupational health and safety of the personnel and manpower for the mine should be submitted.
1.21	Impact of proposed project/activity on hydrological regime of the area shall be assessed and report be submitted. Hydrological studies as per GEC 2015 guidelines to be prepared and submitted
1.22	Impact of mining and water abstraction from the mine on the hydrogeology and groundwater regime within the core zone and 10 km buffer zone including long-term monitoring measures should be provided. Details of rainwater harvesting and measures for recharge of groundwater should be reflected in case there is a declining trend of groundwater availability and/or if the area falls within dark/grey zone.
1.23	Study on land subsidence including modeling for prediction, mitigation/prevention of subsidence, continuous monitoring measures, and safety issues should be carried out.
1.24	Detailed water balance should be provided. The break up of water requirement as per different activities in the mining operations, including use of water for sand stowing should be given separately. Source of water for use in mine, sanction of the Competent Authority in the State Govt. and impacts vis-à-vis the competing users should be provided.
1.25	PP shall submit design details of all Air Pollution control equipment (APCEs) to be implemented as part of Environment Management Plan vis-à-vis reduction in concentration of emission for each APCEs
1.26	PP shall propose to use LNG/CNG based mining machineries and trucks for mining operation and transportation of boulderstone. The measures adopted to conserve energy or use of renewable sources shall be explored
1.27	PP to evaluate the green house emission gases from the mine operation/ washery plant and corresponding carbon absorption plan.
1.28	PP shall explore the use of vent gases as generated from under ground Mine for use of energy generation/ in house energy consumption

S. No	Terms of Reference
1.29	Site specific Impact assessment with its mitigation measures, Risk Assessment and Disaster Preparedness and Management Plan should be provided.
1.30	Impact of choice of mining method, technology, selected use of machinery and impact on air quality, mineral transportation etc, Impact of blasting, noise and vibrations should be provided.
1.31	Impacts of mineral transportation within the mining area and outside the lease/project along with flow-chart indicating the specific areas generating fugitive emissions should be provided. Impacts of transportation, handling, transfer of mineral and waste on air quality, generation of effluents from workshop etc, management plan for maintenance of HEMM and other machinery/equipment should be given. Details of various facilities such as rest areas and canteen for workers and effluents/pollution load emanating from these activities should also be provided.
1.32	Details of various facilities to be provided to the workers in terms of parking, rest areas and canteen, and effluents/pollution load resulting from these activities should also be given.
1.33	The number and efficiency of mobile/static water jet, Fog cannon sprinkling system along the main mineral transportation road inside the mine, approach roads to the mine/stockyard/siding, and also the frequency of their use in impacting air quality should be provided.
1.34	Impacts of CHP, if any on air and water quality should be given. A flow chart showing water balance along with the details of zero discharge should be provided.
1.35	Conceptual Final Mine Closure Plan and post mining land use and restoration of land/habitat to the pre- mining status should be provided. A Plan for the ecological restoration of the mined out area and post mining land use should be prepared with detailed cost provisions. Impact and management of wastes and issues of re-handling (wherever applicable) and backfilling and progressive mine closure and reclamation should be furnished.
1.36	Adequate greenbelt shall be provided with details of species selected and survival rate Greenbelt development should be undertaken particularly around the transport route and CHP.
1.37	Cost of EMP (capital and recurring) should be included in the project cost and for progressive and final mine closure plan.
1.38	Details of R&R. Detailed project specific R&R Plan with data on the existing socio- economic status of the population (including tribals, SC/ST, BPL families) found in the study area and broad plan for resettlement of the displaced population, site for the resettlement colony, alternate livelihood concerns/employment for the displaced people, civic and housing amenities being offered, etc and costs along with the schedule of the implementation of the R&R Plan should be given.
1.39	CSR Plan along with details of villages and specific budgetary provisions (capital and recurring) for specific activities over the life of the project should be given.
1.40	Corporate Environment Responsibility:
1.41	a) The Company must have a well laid down Environment Policy approved by the Board of Directors.

S. No	Terms of Reference				
1.42	b) The Environment Policy must prescribe for standard operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/conditions.				
1.43	c) The hierarchical system or Administrative Order of the company to deal with environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the environmental clearance conditions must be furnished.				
1.44	d) To have proper checks and balances, the company should have a well laid down system of reporting of non-compliances/violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the company and/or shareholders or stakeholders at large.				
1.45	e) Environment Managment Cell and its responsibilities to be clearly spleel out in EIA/ EMP report				
1.46	f) In built mechanism of self-monitoring of compliance of environmental regulations should be indicated.				
1.47	Status of any litigations/ court cases filed/pending on the project should be provided.				
1.48	PP shall submit clarification from PCCF that mine does not falls under corridors of any National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary with certified map showing distance of nearest sanctuary.				
1.49	Copy of clearances/approvals such as Forestry clearances, Mining Plan Approval, mine closer plan approval. NOC from Flood and Irrigation Dept. (if req.), etc. wherever applicable.				
1.50	Details on the Forest Clearance should be given as per the format given: Total ML Total Project Area Forest (ha) land (ha) If more than one provide details of each FC <table><thead><tr><th>Date of FC</th><th>Extent of Forest Land</th><th>Balance area for which FC is yet to be obtained</th><th>Status of appl For diversion of forest land</th></tr></thead></table>	Date of FC	Extent of Forest Land	Balance area for which FC is yet to be obtained	Status of appl For diversion of forest land
Date of FC	Extent of Forest Land	Balance area for which FC is yet to be obtained	Status of appl For diversion of forest land		
1.51	In case of expansion of the proposal, the status of the work done as per mining plan and approved mine closure plan shall be detailed in EIA/ EMP report				
1.52	Details on Public Hearing should cover the information relating to notices issued in the newspaper, proceedings/minutes of Public Hearing, the points raised by the general public and commitments made by the proponent and the time bound action proposed with budgets in suitable time frame. These details should be presented in a tabular form. If the Public Hearing is in the regional language, an authenticated English Translation of the same should be provided.				
1.53	PP shall carry out survey through drone highlighting the ground reality for atleast 10 minutes				
1.54	Detailed Chronology of the project starting from the first lease deed allotted/Block allotment/ Land acquired to its No. of renewals, CTO /CTE with details of no. renewals, previous EC(s) granted details and its compliance details, NOC details from various Govt bodies like Forest NOC(s), CGWA permissions, Power permissions, etc as per the requisites respectively to be furnished in tabular form.				

S. No	Terms of Reference
1.55	The first page of the EIA/ EMP report must mention the peak capacity production, area, detail of PP, Consultant (NABET accreditation) and Laboratory (NABL / MoEF & CC certification)
1.56	The compliances of ToR must be properly cited with respective chapter section and page no in tabular form and also mention sequence of the respective ToR complied within the EIA-EMP report in all the chapter,s section.

Additional Terms of Reference

N/A

Annexure 2

Details of Products & By-products

Name of the product /By-product	Product / By-product	Quantity	Unit	Mode of Transport / Transmission	Remarks (eg. CAS number)
boulder stone	boulder stone	25637.7	Tons per Annum (TPA)	Road	