

**MINUTES OF THE 29TH MEETING OF STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA) KERALA HELD ON 09.04.2014 AT
HARITHASREE HALL, DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

The following were present:

1.	Dr. K. P. Joy, Former Director, School of Environmental Studies of M.G. University and Kannur University	Chairman, SEIAA
2.	Dr. J. Subhashini, Former Principal, Govt. College, Kanjiramkulam	Member, SEIAA
3.	Sri. P. K. Mohanty IAS Addl. Chief Secretary to Government Environment, Parliamentary Affairs and Forest & Wild Life Departments, Govt. of Kerala	Member Secretary, SEIAA

Sri. P. Sreekantan Nair, Secretary SEAC, participated in the meeting as a special invitee as usual for giving necessary clarifications as was required by SEIAA.

The Authority observed that many projects are pending for issuance of EC even after the approval of SEIAA, awaiting final approval from the Chief Electoral Officer for publishing the SEIAA minutes and to do the follow ups. Also SEIAA has received requests from many proponents to expedite the issuance of EC since their projects are affected for want of the same. Considering all these, it is decided to send official communication, after 10th April 2014, on the approval of EC to the concerned proponents along with the conditions that may be specified in the EC and that the formal EC shall be issued only after the election process are completely over.

It is further decided to discuss on the scope of reorganization of SEIAA as an autonomous body at par with other states for which Secretary SEAC may place a proposal for consideration of SEIAA in its next meeting.

29th SEIAA meeting unanimously took the following decisions:

KLA / 29.01	Confirmation of the minutes of 27 th and 28 th SEIAA Meetings
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Confirmed.

KLA / 29.02	Action taken report on the decisions of the 27 th and 28 th SEIAA Meetings
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Noted.

KLA/29. 03	Environmental clearance for a quarry project in Sy. Nos. 213 pt., 214 pt. and 215 pt. at Kavanoor Village and Panchayath, Eranad Taluk, Malappuram district, Kerala by M/s Areacode Granites Private Limited (File No. 107/SEIAA/KL/1805/2013)
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Decision : Secretary SEAC submitted and certified the site inspection report furnished by subcommittee of SEAC. After examining the same, the Authority

approved for issuance of EC stipulating the following specific conditions in addition to the General Conditions for mining projects:

1. New haulage roads should be taken and top to bottom approach to be followed for further mining.
2. 100 m should be left from the Chaliyar river edge without conducting quarrying activities.
3. The existing level of the quarry should not be deepened further.
4. The workers should be provided with reasonable dwelling units and proper sanitation facilities including supply of safe drinking water.
5. The crusher unit should be installed with all the conditions stipulated by KSPCB.

KLA/29. 04	Environmental clearance for the proposed Erikkulam Chinaclay Mining and Beneficiation project in Sy. Nos. 676/A & 681/1A at Madikkai Village and Panchayath, Hosdurg Taluk, Kasaragod District, Kerala by M/s Kerala Clays & Ceramic Products Ltd. (File No. 114/SEIAA/KL/1980/2013)
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Decision : The proponent should submit an affidavit to the effect that the actual beneficiation is not done as part of the present project and that mining will not be undertaken until EC is sought for beneficiation project. The proposal is referred to SEAC for considering as B2 project on the above lines and to forward Appraisal Report accordingly.

KLA / 29.05	Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos. 684, 685, 688, 693/2, 692, 690, 691, 687, 688p, 689p, 690p and 700p at Desamangalam Village and Panchayath, Thalappilly Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by M/s B.P. Associates (File No. 153/SEIAA/KL/3073/2013)
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Decision : Approved for issuance of EC stipulating the following specific conditions in addition to the General Conditions for mining projects:

1. Endemic species in the project site should be preserved.
2. Assurances given by way of affidavits should be followed.

KLA / 29.06	Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos. 515/3, 517/1, 532/2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 19, 20, 22 and 30 at Vellarada Village and Panchayath, Neyyattinkara Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala by M/s Blue Mount Sands & Aggregates Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 156/SEIAA/KL/3247/2013)
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Decision : SEIAA stressed that SEAC should assess the environmental impacts of the project as to whether quarrying is permissible in the said area, being in the catchment area of Chittar Reservoir and also if the environment will be damaged in case of permitting quarrying activity in the area and if so, the extent of damage. Apprehensions of people/complaints should also be addressed as far as justifiable from the environmental angle. Hence, SEIAA decided to inform the proponent to address the apprehensions of public, redraft EMP and submit accordingly for reconsideration of SEAC as a B2 project in view of the MoEF O.M. dt. 24.12.2013 classifying mining areas less than 25 hectares as B2.

KLA / 29.07	Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos. 523/1, 523/3/2, 524/1, 524/3/1, 524/3/2, 524/3/3 and 526/1 at Purakkadi Village, Meenangadi Panchayath, Sulthan Batheri Taluk, Wayanad District, Kerala by M/s Krishnagiri Stone Crusher (File No. 159/SEIAA/KL/3488/2013)
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Decision : EC rejected on the following grounds considering the recommendations of SEAC:

- The quarry activity in the centre of the valley has altered the hydraulic regime considerably leading to rapid lowering and depletion of ground water. The original land use is also affected by this activity.
- Canal network of Karappuzha is seen on the northern side of the valley for irrigating the fields but has not seen functional till date. However, when it may come to operation, having deep pits in the valley will be detrimental.

KLA / 29.08	Environmental clearance for removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 247/6 at Panancherry Village, Thrissur Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Mr. K.M. Thomas (File No. 225/SEIAA/KL/440/2014)
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Decision : Approved for issuance of EC as per the usual conditions specified in O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dt. 24.06.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests on mining of 'brick earth' and 'ordinary earth' having lease area less than 5 hectares as follows:

- (i) The activity shall not involve blasting.
- (ii) The maximum depth of removal of earth should not go beyond 2 m from the general ground level of the site, which should be prominently marked before initiating the work.
- (iii) Removal of earth should be restricted to 2 m above to the ground water table at the site.
- (iv) The excavation activity shall not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.
- (v) The borrowed/excavated pit shall be restored by the project proponent for useful purpose(s) as specified in the application.
- (vi) Appropriate fencing all around the borrowed/excavated pit shall be made to prevent any mishap.
- (vii) Measures shall be taken to prevent dust emission by covering of borrowed/excavated earth during transportation.
- (viii) Safeguards shall be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to borrowing/excavation of earth.
- (ix) Workers / labourers shall be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.
- (x) A berm shall be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of proposed excavation.
- (xi) A minimum distance of 15 m from any civil structure shall be kept from the periphery of the excavation area.
- (xii) The Environmental Clearance shall be liable to be cancelled in any case of violation of above guidelines.

KLA / 29.09	Environmental clearance for removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 497/5 at Ezhamkulam Village, Adoor Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala by Sri. K. Sadanandan (File No. 231/SEIAA/KL/656/2014)
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Decision : **Approved for issuance of EC as per the usual conditions specified in O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dt. 24.06.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests on mining of ‘brick earth’ and ‘ordinary earth’ having lease area less than 5 hectares as follows:**

- (i) The activity shall not involve blasting.
- (ii) The maximum depth of removal of earth should not go beyond 2 m from the general ground level of the site, which should be prominently marked before initiating the work.
- (iii) Removal of earth should be restricted to 2 m above to the ground water table at the site.
- (iv) The excavation activity shall not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.
- (v) The borrowed/excavated pit shall be restored by the project proponent for useful purpose(s) as specified in the application.
- (vi) Appropriate fencing all around the borrowed/excavated pit shall be made to prevent any mishap.
- (vii) Measures shall be taken to prevent dust emission by covering of borrowed/excavated earth during transportation.
- (viii) Safeguards shall be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to borrowing/excavation of earth.
- (ix) Workers / labourers shall be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.
- (x) A berm shall be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of proposed excavation.
- (xi) A minimum distance of 15 m from any civil structure shall be kept from the periphery of the excavation area.
- (xii) The Environmental Clearance shall be liable to be cancelled in any case of violation of above guidelines.

KLA/29.10	Environmental clearance for removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 197/9-1-1 at Iraviperoor Village, Thiruvalla Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala by Sri. Anil Kumar T.R. (File No. 232/SEIAA/KL/777/2014)
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Decision : **Approved for issuance of EC as per the usual conditions specified in O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dt. 24.06.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests on mining of ‘brick earth’ and ‘ordinary earth’ having lease area less than 5 hectares as follows:**

- (i) The activity shall not involve blasting.
- (ii) The maximum depth of removal of earth should not go beyond 2 m from the general ground level of the site, which should be prominently marked before initiating the work.
- (iii) Removal of earth should be restricted to 2 m above to the ground water table at the site.
- (iv) The excavation activity shall not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.

- (v) The borrowed/excavated pit shall be restored by the project proponent for useful purpose(s) as specified in the application.
- (vi) Appropriate fencing all around the borrowed/excavated pit shall be made to prevent any mishap.
- (vii) Measures shall be taken to prevent dust emission by covering of borrowed/excavated earth during transportation.
- (viii) Safeguards shall be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to borrowing/excavation of earth.
- (ix) Workers / labourers shall be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.
- (x) A berm shall be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of proposed excavation.
- (xi) A minimum distance of 15 m from any civil structure shall be kept from the periphery of the excavation area.
- (xii) 234 m³ of ordinary earth from 04.05 ares of land in Sy.No.197/9-1-1 can only be removed.
- (xiii) The Environmental Clearance shall be liable to be cancelled in any case of violation of above guidelines.

KLA / 29.11	Environmental clearance for removal of ordinary earth in Sy. Nos. 157/2 and 157/4 at Thrissur Village and Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by President, Thrissur Service Co-operative Bank Ltd. No. R-1097 (File No. 247/SEIAA/KL/1015/2014)
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Decision : **Approved for issuance of EC as per the usual conditions specified in O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dt. 24.06.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests on mining of ‘brick earth’ and ‘ordinary earth’ having lease area less than 5 hectares as follows:**

- (i) The activity shall not involve blasting.
- (ii) The maximum depth of removal of earth should not go beyond 2 m from the general ground level of the site, which should be prominently marked before initiating the work.
- (iii) Removal of earth should be restricted to 2 m above to the ground water table at the site.
- (iv) The excavation activity shall not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.
- (v) The borrowed/excavated pit shall be restored by the project proponent for useful purpose(s) as specified in the application.
- (vi) Appropriate fencing all around the borrowed/excavated pit shall be made to prevent any mishap.
- (vii) Measures shall be taken to prevent dust emission by covering of borrowed/excavated earth during transportation.
- (viii) Safeguards shall be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to borrowing/excavation of earth.
- (ix) Workers / labourers shall be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.
- (x) A berm shall be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of proposed excavation.
- (xi) A minimum distance of 15 m from any civil structure shall be kept from the periphery of the excavation area.

- (xii) 2 meter set back distances should be maintained from surrounding adjacent plots on 4 sides
- (xiii) The Environmental Clearance shall be liable to be cancelled in any case of violation of above guidelines.

KLA / 29.12	Environmental clearance for removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 124/1 at Aamballoor Village and Panchayath, Kanayannur Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Father Augustine Bharanikulangara (File No. 250/SEIAA/KL/1062/2014)
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Decision : **Approved for issuance of EC as per the usual conditions specified in O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dt. 24.06.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests on mining of ‘brick earth’ and ‘ordinary earth’ having lease area less than 5 hectares as follows:**

- (i) The activity shall not involve blasting.
- (ii) The maximum depth of removal of earth should not go beyond 2 m from the general ground level of the site, which should be prominently marked before initiating the work.
- (iii) Removal of earth should be restricted to 2 m above to the ground water table at the site.
- (iv) The excavation activity shall not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.
- (v) The borrowed/excavated pit shall be restored by the project proponent for useful purpose(s) as specified in the application.
- (vi) Appropriate fencing all around the borrowed/excavated pit shall be made to prevent any mishap.
- (vii) Measures shall be taken to prevent dust emission by covering of borrowed/excavated earth during transportation.
- (viii) Safeguards shall be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to borrowing/excavation of earth.
- (ix) Workers / labourers shall be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.
- (x) A berm shall be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of proposed excavation.
- (xi) A minimum distance of 15 m from any civil structure shall be kept from the periphery of the excavation area.
- (xii) The Environmental Clearance shall be liable to be cancelled in any case of violation of above guidelines.

KLA / 29.13	Environmental clearance for the proposed construction of a Housing Project, at Kazhakuttom Village, Trivandrum Taluk, Trivandrum District, Kerala, in Sy. Nos. 40/10, 40/10-1, 37/11 & 40/17 by M/s Nikunjam Constructions Private Limited (File No. 8/SEIAA/KL/393/2012)
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Decision : **SEIAA noted that there is no fresh violation. Accordingly decided to issue EC vide decision at 27th SEIAA meeting and also to proceed with violation proceedings vide O.M. dt. 16th November 2010 of MoEF.**

KLA / 29.14	Request from M/s Artech Realtors (P) Ltd. regarding approval for construction of Hotel-cum-Apartment project (File No. 221/SEIAA/KL/329/2014) (File No. 221/SEIAA/KL/329/2014) (Former Item No. KLA/27.10)
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Decision : Decided to send official communication, after 10th April 2014, on the approval of EC to the concerned proponents along with the conditions that may be specified in the EC and that the formal EC shall be issued only after the election process are completely over. SEIAA further noted the SEAC Appraisal Report and decided to issue EC under the conditions decided earlier in its 27th meeting after the election processes are completely over.

KLA / 29.15	Govt. of Kerala circular no. 3568/A3/12/Env. Dt.12.03.2014 on the clarification regarding integration of environmental safeguards for mining of ordinary earth / brick earth
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Decision : Decided to address the State Government to modify the G.O. incorporating the following:
'For more than 1 hectare, there should be an EIA report prepared and certified by any professional Environmental Scientist/Environmental Engineer (also retired hands) submitted along with the simplified format in Malayalam applicable only for areas below 5 hectares'.

KLA / 29.16	MoEF Notification dt. 28.02.2014 to issue show cause notice to project proponents in case of the violations of the conditions of EC
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Noted

KLA / 29.17	Engaging Government Pleader for cases on behalf of SEIAA Kerala in the National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai - Govt. letter No. 3653/A3/13/Env. dt. 19.02.2014 (File No. DoECC/E2/NGT/2509/2013)
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Decision : Services of the standing counsel for the State Government may be utilized (Presently Adv. Jogy Scaria at NGT, NewDelhi; Adv. Suvitha A.S. at NGT, Chennai and Government Pleader at Honourable High Court of Kerala etc.) with the approval of Advocate General, provided Special Pleader shall be engaged if required in specific cases for which a panel of advocates is to be prepared by SEIAA.

KLA / 29.18	Mechanism of monitoring of ECs granted by SEIAA (File No. DoECC/E3/1048/2014)
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Decision : Decided to have a monitoring mechanism preferably by an independent regulatory group for which Secretary SEAC may accordingly place a proposal to SEIAA in its next meeting.

KLA / 29.19	O.M. No. 1-4/2012-RE (Pt.) dt. 04.03.2014 of Ministry of Environment and Forests regarding High Level Working Group report on Western Ghats
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Noted

KLA / 29.20	P.V. Granites – WP C No. 4174/2014 of Hon. High Court of Kerala filed by Sri. Scaria Scaria (File No. SEIAA/E3/1267/2014)
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Decision : Authorized Secretary SEAC / Director, DoECC to take steps to file counter affidavit / Statement of Facts with the approval of Member Secretary SEIAA.

KLA / 29.21	SEAC Appraisal Reports of projects referred by SEIAA
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Decision : Noted the following appraisal reports and decided to issue EC as per the decisions of 27th SEIAA meeting:

1. River sand mining in Kannur District, Kerala, submitted by District Collector, Kannur (File No. 223/SEIAA/KL/400/2014)
2. Dredging in Azheekkal Port in Sy. No. 1 at Azhikkode North Village, Kannur District Kerala by Director of Ports (File No. 228/SEIAA/KL/528/2014)
3. Dredging in Ponnani Port in Sy. No. 13/09 at Ponnani Village, Malappuram District, Kerala by Director of Ports (File No. 229/SEIAA/KL/529/2014)
4. Removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 1421/1 at Amballur Village, Mukundapuram Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Mr. E. M. Sunny (File No. 188/SEIAA/KL/3747/2013)
5. Removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 169/1 at Maadaayikonam Village, Mukundapuram Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Mr. Roy Jose (File No. 215/SEIAA/KL/266/2014)
6. Removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 52/1 at Mararikkulam North Village, Cherthala Taluk, Alappuzha District, Kerala by Sri. V.K Subhakesan (File No. 224/SEIAA/KL/424/2014)
7. Removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 13/1 at Thangaaloor Village, Avannoor Panchayath, Thrissur Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Mr. P.D. Vargheese (File No. 226/SEIAA/KL/443/2014)
8. Removal of ordinary earth at Nooranad Village, Mavelikkara Taluk, Alappuzha District, Kerala in Sy. No. 309/4 by Mr. Sunil Kumar S. (File No. 193/SEIAA/KL/45/2014)
9. Removal of ordinary earth in Sy. No. 864/1, 864/3 at Kalloor Village, Mukundapuram Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Smt. Sisily (File No. 208/SEIAA/KL/213/2014)
10. Aerial passenger ropeway, Jatayupara Tourism project, in Re. Sy. Nos. 126/6, 126/7, 126/8, 127/1, 129/1, 129/2, 131/1, 131/2, 131/3, 131/4, 132/11, 135/9, 136, 137/3, 139/4 and 139/24 at Chadayamangalam Village and Panchayath, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala by M/s Guruchandrika Builders and Property Private Limited (File No. 227/SEIAA/KL/500/2014)
11. Proposed additional tankage for motor spirit and facilities for receipt, storage and delivery through Tank lorries of ATF at Village Karavanthuruthy, Tehsil & District Kozhikode, Kerala by M/s Indian Oil Corporation Limited (File No. 87/SEIAA/KL/447/2013)

KLA / 29.22	Any other item with the approval of Chair
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KLA / 29.22.01	Request from Secretary, Ramapuram Grama Panchayath regarding issuance of NOC/permits/clearances for conducting mining/metal crusher units in Ramapuram Panchayath and to revoke the EC issued to M/s St. Basil Industries Pvt. Ltd. (File No. DoECC/E4/1613/2014)
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Decision : Decided to keep in abeyance the operation of Environmental Clearance no. 72/SEIAA/KL/167/2013 dt. 07.04.2013 issued to M/s St. Basil Industries Pvt. Ltd. and also to issue a notice to the proponent to show cause as to why the said Environmental Clearance should not be revoked. The proponent is directed to stop the activities in the project area specified in the referred EC immediately until further orders are issued in this regard.

KLA / 29.22.02	Schedule of awareness programme
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Decision : Decided to present in the next meeting a schedule of awareness programme to be conducted.

KLA / 29.22.03	Processing fee for EC applications
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Decision : Decided to take up with the Government again for introducing fee for the processing of applications as practiced in SEIAA of other states.

KLA / 29.23	Report on the status of processing of the applications for Environmental Clearance by SEIAA Secretariat (File No. SEIAA-KL/E4/1444/2013)
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Noted. SEIAA further desired that SEAC may have special sittings exclusively for considering EC proposals for earth removal in order to reduce the period of pendency at the earliest.