

MINUTES OF THE 68th MEETING OF THE STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA) KERALA HELD ON 12.05.2017 AT 12.00 PM AT HARITHASREE HALL, STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA) KERALA.

Present:

1. Prof. (Dr). K.P. Joy, Chairman, SEIAA
2. Dr. J. Subhashini, Member, SEIAA
3. Sri.James Varghese. I.A.S. Additional Chief Secretary & Member Secretary, SEIAA.

The 68th meeting of SEIAA and the 35th meeting of the Authority as constituted by the notification No. S.O. 804 (F) dated 19-3-2015 was held at Harithasree Hall, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Kerala on 12th May, 2017, from 12.00 P.M. Chairman Dr.K.P.Joy welcomed the members.

Item No: 68.01 Confirmation of minutes of 67th SEIAA meeting

Confirmed.

Item No: 68.02 SEIAA – Petitions on Environmental Clearance and general complaints on illegal quarries and other environmentally degrading activities (individual cases consolidated- deferred from 67th SEIAA)

| Sl. No. | Petitioner and Address | Subject | Nature of complaint | Status of E.C application |
|---------|--|--|---|---|
| 1. | Binil Kumar.A Neeraj Bhavan Manamboor Cheriyakonni Tvm – 695 013 | Complaint against Blue Star quarry owned by Sri. V. Somasekharan Nair | The quarry is working without EC, there are 15 dwelling units within 100 m radius, due to quarry operations the people are suffering so many problems. The people constituted an Action Council and submitted petition to Kerala Chief Minister, District Collector, KSPCB, Mining & Geology, Grama Panchayat, Village Office & Police Station. | Since EC is recommended in the 64 th meeting but not issued (File 858) it was decided that SEIAA may examine the complaint by conducting a site visit. |

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|----|--|---|--|---|
| 2. | Jaison Jose Arackal House Nagappuzha P.O, Kallorkkadu Ernakulam | Complaint against quarry 'Chattupara Granites Quarry' | Petitioners Requested not to grant E.C to the Nithin K.James's quarry- Chattupara Granites Quarry. | Since application for EC is not received the complaint is to be forwarded to the District Collector for necessary action. |
| 3. | Jayaprakash.R, Green Steps Nature Society, Kizhathiri, Ramapuram Bazar, Kottayam | To cancel the EC issued to St.Basil Industries | EC is obtained by false statements and records. | To be forwarded to Land Revenue Department to examine whether there is concealment of facts as per section 8 (vi) of EIA Notification 2006 |
| 4. | Mass petition by Kizhakkemala Samrakshana Samithi | To cancel the EC issued to Sri.Tomy Thomas, Pulickal House, Kalathukadavu P.O., Erattupetta, Kottayam -686579, | Due to quarrying operations many environmental issues and problems are causing to the local people. | EC issued hence the petitioner may approach NGT |
| 5. | Simon, S/o Philipose, Kandoth House, Eranellor P.O, Kakattoor – 686 673 Stephen, S/o Philipose, Kandoth House, Eranellor P.O, Kakattoor – 686 673 | Objections filed against illegal quarrying & violation of conditions of licence/permit by P.K.Prasad, Parakkal Granite, | The proponent is carrying out illegal quarrying operations | EC issued hence the petitioner may approach NGT |
| 6. | Mass Petition by 'Haritha' Prakruthi Samrakshana Samithi, Mundattuchundayil (H), Chengalam P.O, Kottayam – 686 585 | To Cancel the EC granted to Sri. Charles Mathew | EC is obtained by misrepresenting or concealment of relevant facts | Decided to have a preliminary enquiry by SEIAA to verify whether there is concealment of relevant facts. |
| 7. | Petition by Thankachan George & 9 others | To issue stop memo against the illegal quarrying conducted in Sy.No.24/1, 24/2, 24/3, 24/4, 24/5, 24/6 | Causing many environmental issues to neighbouring land and people. | EC issued hence the petitioner may approach NGT |
| 8. | Mass petition filed by Anthyalam Pourasamithi | Complaint against the quarry 'P. J. Associates' owned by Sri. Pious Antony | Quarrying is causing harm to land & people. | Application for EC received but rejected. Complaint may be forwarded to District Collector for action. |
| 9. | Laly Simon Azhukana Kuzhiyil House Kuriannoor P.O Kuriannoor,Thiruvalla | Complaint against 'Shanio Metal Crusher' owned by Sri.A.J.Abraham | The petitioner is facing lot of trouble due to this quarry. | Inform the complainant, that stop memo is issued to the proponent. |

Item No: 68.03 Environmental Clearance for removal of Laterite in Sy.no. 221/1B at Pulakkodu Village and Chathamangalam Panchayath, Kozhikode

Taluk, Kozhikode District, Kerala by Sri. P. Sudhakaran (File No.776/SEIAA/EC4/795/2015)

Sri. P. Sudhakaran, Purakkatt, Puzhakkaramparambu, Nellikodu P.O., Calicut-16 applied for Environmental Clearance for removal of 1000 m³ of Laterite from 0.3974 Ha of land comprised in Sy.No. 221/1B at Pulakkodu Village and Chathamangalam Panchayath, Kozhikode Taluk, Kozhikode District, Kerala.

The proposal was placed in the 38th meeting of SEAC held on 28th, 29th & 30th April 2015. The Committee appraised the proposal based on the details provided by the applicant and deferred the item for field visit by Dr.P.S.Harikumar. Dr. P.S Harikumar, member of SEAC visited the site on 20-07-2016 and made the following observations.

The laterite bricks are manufactured in an industrial site of 'AISWARYA Concrete Products' Vallanur Malai, Chathamangalam. In addition to laterite blocks, interlocking blocks, tiles, soil and interlocking blocks are also produced at this site, On the south and eastern parts of the site chicken hatchery units exist, No residential buildings were noticed adjacent to the site, The proponent has requested to get clearance for the removal of 1000m³ from 0.3974 ha, The proposed site has an elevation difference of 1 m with the adjacent agricultural plot. Both the sites are separated by more than 1-2 m. The inspection team recommended that

- i. A quantity of 1000 m³ of ordinary earth can be removed with a condition that, the maximum depth of excavation should be limited to 1 m.
- ii. Removal of earth should not disturb the ongoing adjacent hatchery unit and agricultural activities nearby.

The proposal was placed in the 60th meeting of SEAC held on 28th & 29th July 2016. The Committee appraised the proposal based on the field visit report and all the other details provided by the proponent and decided to recommend for issuance of Environmental Clearance.

The proposal was considered by the Authority in the 59th meeting held on 27th September, 2016. The Authority noted that whereas the application is for cutting of laterite stone, the observations in the site inspection report and recommendations of SEAC are in respect of 'Ordinary Earth'. Decided that the matter may be got clarified by SEAC.

The proposal was again placed in the 69th meeting SEAC held on 9th & 10th March 2017. It is observed that the application for EC is for the removal of accumulated earth in the locality which was proposed for making bricks. The Committee found, as recommended earlier there is no harm in giving EC for above purpose.

The Authority accepted the recommendation of SEAC and decided to issue Environmental Clearance for the removal of 1000 m³ of earth with a condition that, the maximum depth of excavation should be limited to 1 m. Removal of earth should not disturb the ongoing adjacent hatchery unit and agricultural activities nearby.

Item No: 68.04 **Environmental clearance for removal of Laterite in Re Sy. No. 540/1/1, 540/1/2, 540/2 at, Thamarakkulam Village, Mavelikkara Taluk, Alappuzha District, Kerala by Sri.M.Vijayan Pillai -**

request for amendment. (File No. 886/SEIAA/EC4/3284/2015)

Sri. M.Vijayan Pillai, Mainagappilleth House, Chathiyara, Thamarrakkulam P.O, Alappuzha District Kerala – 690 530 has applied for Environmental Clearance for the removal of Laterite from an area of 09.90 areas, of land in Re Sy. No. 540/1/1, 540/1/2, 540/2 at Thamarakkulam Village, Mavelikkara Taluk, Alappuzha District.

The application has been recommended for issuance of Environmental Clearance by SEAC in its 56th meeting held on 6/7-06-2016 for removal of 900 m³ of ordinary earth subject to the condition that removal shall be in terraced manner up to a maximum depth of 1m.

Accordingly SEIAA approved the application for the issuance of E.C in its 55th meeting held on 16th July 2016 and accepted the recommendations of SEAC and issued E.C for the removal not exceeding 900 m³ of laterite subject to the condition that removal shall be in terraced manner up to a maximum depth of 1m based on recommendations of 55th SEAC.

Now the proponent represented that the District Geologist, Mining and Geology, Alappuzha has not issued permit and refused his application, because the E.C issued by SEIAA is for the removal of O.E and not for Laterite Mining, since the maximum depth of removal is limited to 1m. Hence the proponent requested to issue E.C by specifying the depth of mining of Laterite stone from the area.

The proponent has also produced the letter from the District Geologist, Mining and Geology, Alappuzha (Ltr No. D.O.A/1666/MM/16 dated 11-11-2016). The Geologist also represented that the condition mentioned in the E.C of SEIAA is that removal shall be in terraced manner up to a maximum depth of 1m and hence the application cannot be considered since the Laterite cutting is possible only after the removal of O.E.

The proposal was considered in the 62nd meeting of SEIAA held on 23.12.2016. The proponent has applied for laterite mining and the same can be removed only after removing the ordinary earth. As per the condition specified in the E.C laterite stone cannot be mined from the site. Hence the Authority decided to return the proposal to SEAC for re-appraisal of the proposal for the removal of laterite and not ordinary earth.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. SEAC observed that “ the application received was in the format prescribed by SEIAA for obtaining EC for the removal of Ordinary Earth/Brick Earth. Though the application as indicated in the request, is for laterite mining, the recommendation from Tahsildhar, Mavelikkara is for removal of earth. This could be because of the nature of the printed format of the application. All Mining including laterite mining requires a Mining Plan and the application has to be in the Form I format prescribed in the 2006 Notification. At this stage the option is to transfer the application to the DEIAA, Alappuzha where it can be sanctioned on the basis of District Survey Report for the minor mineral ‘laterite’ as prescribed in the procedure for DEIAA. Hence it is recommended to transfer the application to DEIAA, Alappuzha for further action”.

The Authority decided to direct the proponent to approach DEIAA as per the recommendation of SEAC with a fresh application. As the fee was already paid, DEIAA is to be informed that, there is no need to accept fee again from the proponent. The E.C issued to the proponent deemed to be cancelled provided the proponent submit a request for cancellation of the EC.

Item No: 68.05 Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos 105 pt. & 111 pt. at Kannamangalam Village, Kannamangalam Panchayath, Tirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram District, Kerala by Sri. Abdul Khader, K. (File No. 846/SEIAA/EC1/2858/2015)

Sri.Abdul Khader, K., Kanneth House, Cherur P. O., Vengara (via), Malappuram District-676304, vide his application received on 24-07-2015 has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Sy. Nos 105 pt& 111pt at Kannamangalam Village, Kannamangalam Panchayath, Tirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram District, Kerala for an area of 8.8082 hectares. The project comes under Category B2 as per the O.M. No. J-13012/12/2013-IA-II (I) dtd. 24.12.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, since the area of the project is below 25 hectares

The Govt., vide lr. No. U O (O) 2864/B1/2015/ Envnt dated 07.08.2015 forwarded a complaint regarding the application. In the said complaint it is stated that the quarry is causing serious threat to the biodiversity of the Oorakam Hills. From the complaint it is also noted that litigation is pending against the proposal, even though, the proponent in application stated that no litigation is pending.

49th meeting of SEAC held on 7-8 Dec 2015 has considered the matter as per the approved mining plan (KMMC Rules-2015) submitted. The total area proposed for EC is 8.8082ha.which is patta land. The proponent has informed that there are more than 25 quarries in Oorakam hill area. The proposal is for a fresh quarry unit. To the enquiry of the committee, the proponent has informed there is no complaint against the quarry unit and the quarry is yet to be started. Since the proposed quarry is a fresh one, the committee decided to **defer** the item for field visit.

The sub-committee of SEAC consisting of Dr.Khaleel Chovva and Dr. P. S. Harikumar visited the quarry project on 27-03-2016 in Survey Nos. 105 & 111 at Kannamangalam Village, Tirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram Dt. of Sri. Abdul Khader K. The proponent was present at the site. The proposal is for a fresh quarry for an area of 8.8082 ha out of the total area of 13.7640 ha. Another quarry, with an area of 0.15ha of is operating within 500 m radius.

Now it is a virgin rock area having different varieties of local plants and rubber plantation all around. Quarrying has not been started. The approach road was found to be not tarred and found to be a bad condition. There are over burden ranging from 0 to 5m thickness on the proposed quarrying area.

The inspection team recommend for issuance of Environmental Clearance with the following specific conditions, in addition to the general conditions stipulated for mining projects.

1. Fencing should be provided all around the project area.
2. Storm water drainage from the quarry must be let out to the stream only after clarification.
3. RWH structure should be provided in the site.
4. Over burden must be stored in a designated place at a lower elevation.

5. Approach roads to the quarry needs to be properly developed

55th SEAC Meeting held on 10th, 11th & 20th May, 2016 considered the inspection report of the Subcommittee. It is observed that area is a virgin area with over burden up to 5m depth. Many of the committee members expressed the apprehension about the possible damages in the quarry area. Hence it was decided to once again examine thoroughly the possible damages to the local environment due to the proposed quarry operations. The committee decided to include the Geology Expert Sri. John Mathai also to the subcommittee for inspecting the site.

In connection with the above minutes Sri. John Mathai, (Member, SEAC) had visited the site at Kannamangalam Village, Thirurangadi Taluk, Malappuram District. The inspection report follows: As decided in the 55th meeting of SEAC, additional site inspection in the proposed quarry project site of Sri. Abdul Khader was carried by Sri. John Mathai, (Member, SEAC) Kerala on 16.07.16 in the presence of the Proponent. Topography including slope, land use, lithology, accessibility, drainage, overburden thickness etc. of the site and surroundings were examined. The site is located on the mid slope of a hill ridge (Urot Mala) whose crestal portions are above 400m elevation. The general slope is towards northwest with the valley section at an elevation of less than 100m. The high relative relief (altitudinal variation) is high over a short distance. The hill segment of the proposed quarry has a slope varying from 34^o to 40^o. The area exposes rock outcrop of Charnockite on the lower slope while in the upper part patches of thick overburden is seen. In the upper part coconut is seen planted in areas with good soil cover. In the lower part of the slope adjoining valley rubber is dominant. An examination of the nature of soil in the hill slope indicates that it is not *in situ* but mostly transported from the upper part. The site is accessed through a narrow jeepable road negotiating the steeply sloping segment for considerable distance. Considering the steep slope of 1 in 1.4, high relief, pockets of thick OB, presence of transported soil and the site being a virgin area, it is better to avoid quarrying in this site. Quarrying in the site can initiate landslides in the upper slope.

SEAC consider the proposal again in its 62nd meeting held on 06th & 07th September 2016. The Committee after examining the Minutes of 55th meeting of SEAC held on 10th, 11th and 20th of May, 2016, and the two inspection reports observed that since differing views have emerged regarding the suitability of the site for mining it is better to get it inspected by a strengthened team of experts. Hence it was decided to get the site inspection conducted by a team consisting of Dr. George Chackacherry, Dr. Khaleel Chowva, Dr. P. S. Harikumar and Sri. John Mathai.

The site visit to the quarry was carried out twice on 27-03-2016 and 16.07.16. As per the decision of 64th SEAC meeting, a team consisting of Dr Khaleel Chowva, Dr E A Jayson, Dr George Chackacherry, Dr P S Harikumar again visited the site on 16-12-2016.

The proponent was present during the site visit. The topography slope, drainage, land use, human habitations, probability of land slide, accessibility to the site etc were examined during the site visit. The observations of the inspection team were as follows:

The area is proposed to have an open cast mining

The accessibility of the site is through a private road which is narrow at some places and proponent had developed certain stretches of the road by laying concrete slabs.

The quarry is situated in a hill ridge (Urot mala)

No quarrying was started during the site visit.

The highest elevation of the mine area is 370m MSL and lowest is 200 m MSL

They also reported that during the site visit, the proponent had arranged a survey team from M/S Survey and Engineering Solutions, Calicut. They had measured the slope in the presence Quarrying in the site can initiate landslides in the upper slope and showed the measurements (The report is attached).

The slope of the site varies 24° to 30°

The drainage of the site is towards South East to North West

No habitations were seen near the site

At certain locations some overburden was observed

In the upper part, coconut is seen planted in areas with good soil cover. In the lower part of the slope and adjoining valley rubber is dominant. In other places, local vegetation was seen around the site

The proponent had submitted a letter from Department of Mining and Geology Malappuram, which states that so far no land slide had occurred/reported at the proposed site.

Specific Conditions, if, SEAC recommends the proposal

The accessibility to the site should be improved

The drainage should be properly developed so that the water coming from the top should be properly collected and harvested. The water should be clarified before discharge

The overburden should be properly deposited at a specific site.

The boundary of the mining area should be clearly demarcated with fencing and identification signs

Proper care should be taken to avoid any type of adversity during mining.

The proposal was considered in the 67th meeting of SEAC held on 27th January, 2017. The Committee observed that the latest site visit report indicate only a slope bearing between 24° to 30° and does not point out any appreciable depth of overburden at the site. A letter from the Geologist Malappuram indicating that the locality has not history of landslides is also produced. After deliberations, though the committee including the Sub Committee members Dr.K.M.Khaleel and Dr.George Chackacherry did not find any material to deny EC to the proponent. It was decided to seek the opinions of other committee members also and hence decided to **defer** the item.

The proposal was again considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-feasibility Report, Mining Plan, field inspection report of the Sub Committee and all other documents submitted with the proposal. The Committee decided to **Recommend for issuance of EC** subject to general conditions in addition to the following specific condition for mining.

1. *The accessibility to the site should be improved*
2. *The drainage should be properly developed so that the water coming from the top should be properly collected and harvested. The water should be clarified before discharge*
3. *The overburden should be properly deposited at a specific site.*
4. *The boundary of the mining area should be clearly demarcated with fencing and identification signs*
5. *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*

The proponent agreed to set apart Rs.11.65 lakh (non-recurring) and Rs.15.66 lakh per annum (recurring) for CSR activities for the welfare of the local community in consultation with the local Panchayat.

The proponent noted through the basic details that the quarry is not working and it is a fresh quarry.

Authority noted the contradictory inspection reports of the Sub Committee members. One of the inspection reports especially that of Mining expert Sri.John Mathai states that quarrying in the site can initiate landslides in the upper slope. In the light of this contradictory inspection reports and the technical aspects of the complaint, Authority decided to return the proposal to SEAC for reconsideration of their recommendations. SEAC may also look into the status of the litigation pending against the quarry.

Item No: 68.06 Environmental Clearance for the proposed building stone quarry project in Sy. Nos.138/ (pt), 370/3(pt), 836(pt), 837(pt), 838(pt), 839(pt), 847(pt) at Killimangalam Village, Thalappilly Taluk, Thrissur District, Kerala by Sri. K. R. Viswanathan. (File No.855/SEIAA/EC1/2979/2015)

Sri. K. R. Viswanathan, M/s Chelakkara Granite, Managing Partner, S/o Raman Nair,KannimangalathHouse,OoramanaP.O.,ErnakulamDistrict-686663,videhis application received on 29-07-2015 has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Sy. Nos. 138/(pt), 370/3(pt), 836(pt), 837(pt), 838(pt), 839(pt), 847(pt) at Killimangalam Village, Thalappilly Taluk, Thrissur District ,Kerala for an area of 4.1132 hectares. The project comes under Category B, Activity 1(a), (i) as per the Schedule of EIA Notification 2006 (since it is below 50 hectares) and as per O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II (M) dated 18th May 2012 of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

This is an existing quarry was in operation with a short term quarrying permit issued by Mining & Geology Department, Govt. of Kerala for an area of 0.4046 ha. The mining activity will have localized impact and create physical change in the existing environment due to the change in the land use. At the end of life of mine, the excavated pit will be 3.1203 Ha, in which 2.7090 Ha will be reclaimed with stacked dumping and overburden and rehabilitated by plantation and the remaining part 0.4113 Ha will be used as a water pond.

The topography of the lease area is hilly. The highest elevation of the lease area is 130 m MSL and lowest is 94 m MSL. Solid waste: A total quantity of 60,550 tons of topsoil and 1,54,000 tons of mine waste will be removed during the mining operations. Top soil excavated from the quarry will be stacked at predetermined place and subsequently will be utilized for plantation. Mine waste material will be backfilled.The Sewage to a tune of 0.61 KLD generated from the mine office will be diverted to the specific tank followed by soak pit.Electric power requires for quarry & crusher operation is about 1500 KW/day which is drawn from KSEB. One DG set with a capacity of 600 KvA is installed for power backup.

The land use classification as per revenue records is private own land and the current proposal is for the new quarry and mineral specific and hence no alternate site was examined.The proponent has stated that there is no litigation is pending against the lease area/applicant of the proposed lease area in any court of the law.

The proposal was placed before 50th meeting of SEAC held on 30/31-12-2015 and decided

to defer the item for the production of revised mining plan as per KMMC rule 2015. The proponent has submitted the documents regarding the revised mining plan. Hence the 52nd meeting of SEAC held on 8th and 9th February, 2016 appraised the matter in light of form-1, prefeasibility report, revised mining plan as per KMMCR-2015 and PowerPoint presentation. The proponent admitted that the quarry is currently in operation which amounts to violation. The Committee decided to defer the item for site visit and for submission of -

1. Document regarding ownership of the proposed land.
2. More realistic and need based social responsibility programme.
3. Image showing the whole property with clear demarcation of boundaries.

As the required clarification sought for has received the matter was placed in the 56th meeting of SEAC held on 06/07-06-2016. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-feasibility report, Mining Plan & Field Inspection Report. The Committee decided to recommend for issuance of EC with the general conditions subject to the following specific conditions.

1. Over burden is partly stored in the eastern side in a planned manner. It must be provided with protective support.
2. The drainage from the quarry is currently directed to the SW corner pond.
3. The approach road to the quarry from the main road is not maintained at all. This road must be maintained in good motorable condition by the proponent.
4. Dust suppression mechanism must be in place.
5. Planting of trees needed.
6. Nearest house is only 103 m away.
7. Forest land is found only 50 m away from the lease area. Even though the land is classified as forest land, the areas abutting the lease area is devoid of any trees and is a continuation of rocky patches.
8. Protective fences is to be erected in the deep cuttings and all-around the lease area.

55th meeting of SEIAA held on 16-07-2016 considered the proposal and the Authority noted that forest land is only 50 meters away from the lease area. SEAC incorporated it as a condition for recommending the case, whereas it ought to have been made a condition for rejecting the application. Authority rejected the proposal as it failed to satisfy the uniformly adopted criterion of having the minimum distance of 100 meters form the boundary of forest land.

Accordingly the matter was informed the proponent *via* vide letter No. 855/SEIAA/KL/2979/2014 dated 19-09-2016. The proponent represented that as per the revised approved mining plan they have submitted to SEIAA, the survey numbers included in the project are 138/(pt), 836(pt), 837(pt), 839(pt) and 847(pt) at Killimangalam Village, Thalappilly Taluk, Thrissur District for an area of 4.2649 hectares. They have also submitted revised Form 1 and requested to make needful changes in the rejection letter as per the revised Form 1 and revised approved mining plan.

The proposal was placed in the 61st meeting of SEIAA, held on 30th November 2016. The Authority decided to return the case to SEAC for re-appraisal in the light of the revised Form 1 and revised mining plan.

Meanwhile the proponent approached the Hon'ble High Court and vide judgment WP(C) 664 of 2017 (G) dt.12.01.2017 gave direction to the 3rd respondent (SEAC), to consider the matter as afresh in the light of the direction given by the judgement within a period of one month from the date of receipt of the judgement after hearing the petitioner.

The proposal was again considered in the 70th meeting of SEAC held on 4th and 5th April 2017 and decided that "Considering the environmental value of forest lands SEIAA as a general condition is allowing mining only after providing a buffer distance of 100m from such areas. The revised mining plan submitted by proponent also does not provide 100m buffer. Hence the Committee is of the view that proposal can be accorded EC without changing the above condition. Hence decided to recommend to issue the EC, reiterating the condition that the mining operations should be limited to the area at least 100 m from the forest boundary".

The Government in consultation with the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, the department of Mining & Geology and Industries department issued the minutes of the Video Conference held on 28th April 2017 clarifying the doubts of DEIAA for mining of minor minerals vide letter no. 358/A3/2016/ID dt.09.05.2016 that 100 m distance shall be strictly insisted upon to grant for EC for mining of minor minerals from natural forest including Wild Life Sanctuaries.

The Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance subject to the general conditions and the condition suggested by SEAC that the mining operations should be limited to the area at least 100 m from the forest boundary. An affidavit to this effect should be submitted before SEIAA within 10 days on the receipt of the EC Certificate for it to be operative. All the specific pre-mining conditions suggested by SEAC should also be strictly implemented before starting mining.

Item No:68.07 Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Block No. 25, Survey Nos. 85/9-1, 85/13-1, 85/16-1, 88/1-1, 88/1-2,88/3-1, 88/4, 88/5, 88/7 at Nellanadu Village & Panchayat, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvanthapuram District, Kerala application of Sri. Suresh Kumar S. for his Masonry Stone Mine (Quarry) project (File No. 872/SEIAA/EC1/3103/2015)

Sri. Suresh Kumar S., Neeranjanam, Pazhavady, Nedumangad P.O., Trivandrum, Kerala-695541, vide his application received on 05-08-2015, has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Block No. 25, Survey Nos. 85/9-1, 85/13-1, 85/16-1, 88/1-1, 88/1-2,88/3-1, 88/4, 88/5, 88/7 at Nellanadu Village & Panchayat, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvanthapuram District, Kerala. The current proposal is for the Existing quarry with pit area of 1.5559 hectares and mineral specific. The proposed project is for quarrying of 50,000 MTA of building stone.

The proposal was placed in the 64th meeting of SEAC, Kerala, held on 16th & 17th November, 2016. The committee appraised the proposal based on the Mining Plan, Pre-feasibility Report and all other documents submitted along with Fom.1.

This is a working quarry with a valid lease up to 2018. The land is a privately owned property. A crusher unit is associated with the quarry. The land use of the area predominates rubber plantation.

The committee is found that there are 2 more houses within 100m distance and the proponent is of the opinion that the inhabitants had issued consent for the quarry. The committee decided to defer the item for **field inspection** to verify the following details: Proximity of

residential buildings, Proximity of worship place, Proximity of water supply tanks

Accordingly, Field visit to the Quarry project site of Sri.S.Suresh Kumar in Nellanad village Thiruvananthapuram District, was carried out on 30.11.2016 by the sub-committee of SEAC, Kerala, comprising Dr. Harikrishnan and Sri. John Mathai. The Proponent Sri Sureshkumar was present at the site at the time of site visit. The report is as follows:

The project is located at about 1 km west of Kizhayikonam on MC road but the approach is from Alamthara side. The area in general is rocky with few quarries/abandoned quarries in the vicinity including that of Aramam rocks. However cluster situation does not exist. This smaller sized quarry area falling in own land occupy the crest and upper slopes of a mount exposing hard rock. Boundary pillars of the plot are erected temporarily and numbered as given in the surface plan. The rock type is a mixture of Khondalite and Charnockite. In the old worked out area steep faces are seen. Formation of benches is just initiated in the area applied for EC. Storm water is channelized into a pit on the northern part that functions as RWH structure, clarified and overflow let out through a defined channel. Fencing is to be provided along the outer boundary. The quarry has a crusher unit. Floral and faunal biodiversity is not observed as the area is mostly rocky and disturbed. Three buildings used within 100 m used as dwelling unit have been acquired by the proponent. A temple is located 350 m west of the lease area. The pond with pump house is 300 m south of the lease but not influenced due to its location on the opposite slope. Based on an overall evaluation of the site, issuance of EC can be recommended subject to the production of following:

- Ownership details of the three houses falling within 100 m of the quarry
- Total area presently under the ownership of the proponent to be demarcated in an enlarged cadastral map also showing the extent of lease area.
- All the boundary pillars are to be fixed permanently on the ground and their respective coordinates to be marked on them
- Fencing to be completed around the lease area.
- Commitment of CSR to be verified. The maintenance of the narrow road used largely for the transport of material from the quarry can be included as part of CSR.

The proposal was considered in the 66th meeting of SEAC held on 19th December, 2016 and deferred the item for submission of the above clarifications sought in the field visit report.

Subsequently the proponent submitted the above mentioned documents sought by the 66th SEAC. The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The Committee verified the additional documents submitted by the proponent and found satisfactory. The Committee appraised the proposal based on the Mining Plan, Pre-feasibility Report, field visit report and all other documents submitted along with Form1. The Committee decided to Recommend for Issuance of EC subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the general conditions.

1. *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*

The proponent agreed to set apart Rs.11 lakh (non-recurring) and Rs.10 lakh per annum

(recurring)for CSR activities. The proponent also agreed to spend this amount in consultation with the local Panchayat for the welfare of the local community.

Through the signed basic details the proponent informed that the quarry is working with a mining lease for an area of 0.7280 ha vide Order No. 469/2008-09/9452/M3/2008 with validity up to November, 2018.

The Authority accepted the recommendation of 69th meeting of SEAC and decided to issue Environmental Clearance subject to obtaining legal opinion as decided in the 66th SEIAA meeting whether quarrying on lease areas without Environmental Clearance would also come under the scope of violation. The Authority also decided that the mining operations should be limited to the area at least 100 m from the dwelling unit mentioned in the inspection report . An affidavit should be submitted to this extent before Environmental Clearance is issued. All the specific condition in addition to the general conditions should be strictly implemented.

Item No: 68.08 Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos. 4/1pt, 4/3, 4/5 pt., 4/6 pt., 4/8, 4/9 pt., 4/11 pt., 4/12 pt., 61/3 pt., 61/5 pt., 61/8 pt., 62/2 pt., 62/3 pt., 62/4 pt. & 62/5 pt. at Uzhamalackal Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala application of Sri. M. Nizarudeen, Managing Director, M/s Ponmudi Blue Metals Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 873/SEIAA/EC1/3104/2015)

Sri. M. Nizarudeen, Managing Director, M/s Ponmudi Blue Metals Pvt. Ltd., M.S. Building, Kalungu Jn., Vithura, Nedumangad, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695551, vide his application received on 05-08-2015, has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Survey Nos. 4/1pt, 4/3, 4/5 pt., 4/6 pt., 4/8, 4/9 pt., 4/11 pt., 4/12 pt., 61/3 pt., 61/5 pt., 61/8 pt., 62/2 pt., 62/3 pt., 62/4 pt. and 62/5 pt at Uzhamalackal Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala. The land use classification as per revenue records is private own land with native plantation. The present land use is rocky land. The current proposal is for the existing quarry with pit area of 3.0127 hectares and mineral specific. Hence no alternate site was examined. The proposed project is for quarrying of 85,000 MTA of building stone. (*A WP(C) No.3870/16 dated.04.02.2016 filed by M/s Ponmudi Blue Metals v/s Uzhamalackal Grama Panchayat (2nd respondent) & two others regarding a Stay Order is on account*).

The proposal was placed in the 62nd meeting of SEAC, Kerala, held on 06th & 07th September, 2016 and deferred the item for field visit. Since the Peppara wildlife sanctuary is within 10kms, proof of having applied for the wildlife clearance from MoEF &CC has to be produced. The Committee also suggested revision of CSR activities.

Field visit to the Quarry project site of M/s Ponmudi Blue Metals Pvt. Ltd Uzhamalakkal village, Thiruvananthapuram district, was carried out on 30.11.2016 by the sub-committee of SEAC, Kerala, comprising Dr. Harikrishnan and Sri. John Mathai. The Proponent Sri Nizarudin was present at the site at the time of site visit. Inspection Report is as follows:

The project is located at about 3 km north of Uzhamalakkal with the approach from Kuryathi on the Kulappada-Mannoorkonam road. This quarry area falling in own land occupy the crest and southern upper slopes of a hill ridge exposing hard rock. An abandoned quarry is seen to

the NE of this lease area. Boundary pillars of the plot are erected temporarily at the respective coordinates and numbered as given in the surface plan. The rock type is a mixture of Khondalite and Charnockite. Formation of benches has been initiated. Storm water is channelized into a pit on the upper part that functions as a temporary RWH structure, clarified let out down the slope. Fencing is to be provided along the outer boundary. OB is now partly stored in the upper slopes. The quarry has a crusher unit. Floral and faunal biodiversity is not observed as the area is mostly rocky and disturbed. Water is sprinkled for dust suppression. Vegetation in the form of rubber plantation is seen all around. Based on an overall evaluation of the site, issuance of EC can be recommended after compliance of the following:

- All the boundary pillars are to be fixed permanently on the ground and their respective coordinates to be marked on them
- Fencing to be completed around the lease area.
- OB now stored on the steep slopes to be relocated to the lower slopes in own land. Being a sloping area, protective support walls to be provided.
- Catch water drain to be provided on the lower part from the crusher to the SW boundary.
- A pond like structure to be made on the lower hollow like part on the south side (between BP 3 and BP 4) to serve as another RWH. The over flow from catch water drain to be directed into it.
- Commitment of CSR to be verified.

The proposal was considered in the 66th meeting of SEAC held on 19th December, 2016. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-feasibility Report, Mining Plan, field inspection report of the Sub Committee and all other documents submitted with the proposal.

The Committee deferred the item for submission of clarifications/details sought in the field visit report.

1. *Copy of application for Forest clearance from NBWL*
2. *All the boundary pillars are to be fixed permanently on the ground and their respective coordinates to be marked on them*
3. *Fencing to be completed around the lease area.*
4. *OB now stored on the steep slopes to be relocated to the lower slopes in own land. Being a sloping area, protective support walls to be provided.*
5. *Catch water drain to be provided on the lower part from the crusher to the SW boundary.*
6. *A pond like structure to be made on the lower hollow like part on the south side (between BP 3 and BP 4) to serve as another RWH. The over flow from catch water drain to be directed into it.*

Subsequently the proponent submitted the above mentioned documents sought by the 66th SEAC

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The Committee verified the additional documents submitted by the proponent and found satisfactory. The Committee appraised the proposal based on the Mining Plan, Pre-feasibility Report, field visit report and all other documents submitted along with Form1. The Committee decided to Recommend for Issuance of EC subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the general conditions.

1. *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*

The proponent agreed to set apart Rs.11.5 lakh (non-recurring) and Rs.11 lakh per annum (recurring) for CSR activities. The proponent also agreed to spend this amount in consultation with the local Panchayat for the welfare of the local community.

The proponent vide e-mail dated 8th May 2017 has informed that the quarry is working with two mining leases for cumulative area of 1.7653 ha and the details of mining leases are provided below:

1. For mining area 1.1553 ha vide Order No. 667/2011-12/6819/M3/2011 with validity up to November, 2021.
2. For mining area 0.610 ha vide Order No. 558/2011-12/6818/M3/2011 with validity up to November, 2021.

The Authority accepted the recommendation of 69th meeting SEAC and decided to issue Environmental Clearance subject to obtaining legal opinion as decided in the 66th SEIAA meeting whether quarrying on lease areas without Environmental Clearance also come under the scope of violation. The Authority also decided that the mining operations should be limited to an area at least 100 m from the dwelling unit and an affidavit stating that there is no dwelling unit within 100 m distance should be submitted by the proponent. The conditions mentioned in the field inspection report should also be strictly implemented.

Item No: 68.09 Environmental clearance for the Proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos. 10/1,18 at Kolavallur Village, Thalassery Taluk, Kannur District, Kerala by Mr.Keeran Kumaran, (File No. 935/SEIAA/ EC4/ 3948/2015)

Sri.Mr.Keeran Kumaran, Reenalayam, East Valliayi, Mutghiyanga P.O., Patahayakunnu, Kannur, Kerala State -670691, vide his application received on 28-09-2015 has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Sy. Nos. 10/1,18 at Kolavallur Village, Thalassery Taluk, Kannur District, Kerala by Sri.Keeran Kumaran for an area of 2.9476 hectares. The project comes under Category B, Activity 1(a), (i) as per the Schedule of EIA Notification 2006 (since it is below 50hectares) and as per O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II (M) dated 18th May 2012 of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The proposal was considered in the 57th Meeting of SEAC, held on 16 -17th June, 2016 and **defer** the item for site inspection which was carried out on 17.07.2016 by the sub-committee of SEAC, Kerala, comprising Dr. P S Harikumar, Dr. K M Khaleel and Sri. John Mathai. The Proponent along with his team was present at the site at the time of site visit.

The project is located at about 2 km SSE of Cheruvancherry. The approach is presently through a katcha road that needs to be widened and surfaced. The land proposed to be quarried is owned by others but taken on lease by the proponent. The area includes part of an existing quarry operated with permit. The worked out part of the quarry presents steep cliff like faces. Benches are yet to be formed. Boundary is partly fenced and corner pillars erected with GPS coordinated painted on them. The proposed lease area includes the side slopes and the central valley. Top soil and OB is relatively thick in the central valley part with coconut and other seasonal crops. The slopes are under rubber. The storm water from the entire area is presently channelized through the

central valley part. Dwelling units of the proponent and associates are not seen around. Crusher unit is not planned. Based on an overall evaluation of the site, following aspects may be considered before it is recommended for EC

- The central valley portion with thick soil cover and vegetation should be excluded from the quarry area. Such area should be demarcated with boundary pillars and intimated.
- The entire quarry area should be fenced all around.
- The approach road must be well laid and properly surfaced.
- Working to be in the form of benches. Steep cliff like sections to be left as danger zones with proper sign boards.
- Top soil and Over burden should be stored in a designated place on the lower slope away from the working area. Part of it may be used for the eco-restoration of old working pits.
- Storm water should be clarified before it is let out. A RWH structure should also be in place.
- Assurance that green belt will be provided around the periphery.
- Statutory facilities like drinking water, canteen, rest room etc. should be provided to the workers in the quarry.
- The quarry should have sign boards displayed at appropriate places.
- The CSR activity needs revision addressing the needs of the locality as suggested.

The proposal was considered in the 61st meeting of SEAC held on 11th August 2016. The Committee after examining the mining plan, prefeasibility report, field inspection report and all other documents submitted decided to deferred the item for the submission of following documents:

1. The central valley portion with thick soil cover and vegetation should be excluded from the quarry area. Such area should be demarcated in the field with boundary pillars, marked on the plan and intimated.
2. The entire quarry area should be fenced all around.
3. The approach road must be well laid and properly surfaced
4. Revised and more realistic CSR should be submitted as suggested.
5. Detailed site plan of the area satisfying these conditions.

Subsequently the proponent submitted the above mentioned documents sought by the 61st SEAC. The proponent has submitted the Mining Plan as per Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rule,2015 on 28/09/2015.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The Committee verified the additional documents submitted by the proponent and found satisfactory. The Committee appraised the proposal based on the Mining Plan, Pre-feasibility Report, field visit report and all other documents submitted along with Form1. The Committee decided to Recommend for Issuance of EC subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the general conditions.

1. *As per the modified site plan given, demarcated central valley portion shall be excluded from mining.*
2. *The entire quarry area should be fenced all around.*
3. *The approach road must be well laid and properly surfaced*
4. *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*

The proponent agreed to set apart Rs.7.5 lakh (non-recurring) and Rs.7.5 lakh per annum

(recurring) for CSR activities. The proponent also agreed to spend this amount in consultation with the local Panchayat for the welfare of the local community.

The proponent vide e-mail dated 10th May informed that the quarry was working with short term mining permit valid up to September, 2015. The mining activities were stopped from September, 2015 onwards.

The Authority decided to issue EC subject to the strict implementation of all specific conditions in addition to the general conditions. All the pre-mining conditions suggested by the inspection report of SEAC should be implemented before start mining. An affidavit to this effect should be submitted before the issuance of EC.

Item No: 68.10 **Environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Sy. Nos. 251/1, 251/1-1 & 251/1-2 at Pazhayakannummel Village, Chirayinkeezhu Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala application of Sri. K. A. Jaleel (File No. 985/SEIAA/EC1/4652/2015)**

Sri.K. A. Jaleel, Machu Veedu, Mylakkadu P.O., Kollam District - 691 571, vide his application received on 11.11.2015, has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Sy. No. 251/1, 251/1-1 & 251/1-2 at Pazhayakannummel Village, Pazhayakannummel Grama Panchayat, Chirayinkeezhu Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala. The land use classification as per revenue records is private own land with 600 plantations. The lease area consists of 2.30.00 hectares, which is private land. The present land use is unutilized / vacant. The current proposal is for the new quarry with pit area of **1.00.50** hectares and mineral specific. Hence no alternate site was examined. The proposed project is for quarrying of 57,127 m³/annum of building stone.

The proposal was first considered by SEAC in its 60th meeting held on 28th and 29th July, 2016 and the committee decided to inform the proponent to submit a certificate that the land is not assigned for any other purpose and deferred the item for field visit. The following things have to be noticed during field visit.

1. Slope /terrain
2. Proximity to residential area.

Field visit to the quarry project site of Sri. K.A. Jaleel in Pazhayakunnummel Village, Chirayinkizh taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala was carried out on 30.08.2016 by Sri. John Mathai, Member, SEAC along with Dr. K. Sreedharan from DoECC. The Proponent Sri K.A.Jaleel along with his team was present at the site at the time of site visit. The report is as follows:

The quarry project, without a crusher unit, is located at about 2.5 km east of Kilimanur with approach through a kutcha road connecting to the Police station-Tholikuzhi road. The area proposed for quarry is private land taken on lease from four parties for a period of thirty years. This virgin land occupies the southern slopes of a hill ridge mostly exposing hard rock. The lower slopes are steep with a slope of ~ 30⁰ while the upper slopes are less steep. No other quarries are noted in the vicinity. Boundary pillars of the plot are defined by steel poles and numbered displaying GPS values. Some of them are seen misplaced. The rock type belongs to Khondalite suite of rocks. On the lower slope with a thin soil and over burden, rubber is the dominant

vegetation while the upper slope is relatively barren on account of rock outcrops. The storm water from the entire presently flows down the slope as sheet flow ultimately reaching Kilimanur Ar, a tributary of Vamanapuram river. Floral and faunal biodiversity is not observed as the area is largely cleared of natural vegetation. Settlement is seen in the vicinity but reported as belonging to the associates of the Proponent and beyond 100 m.

Based on an overall evaluation of the site, following conditions may be fulfilled before it is recommended for EC:

1. The land of 2.3 ha where quarry is proposed is to be fenced all around and provided with permanent boundary pillars. The exact co-ordinate values should be displayed on the pillars for reference.
2. The approach to the quarry should be provided with an all weather road. The maintenance of it should be the responsibility of the proponent.
3. Top soil and Over burden should be stored in a designated place away from the working area and provided with protective support walls.
4. In the non-quarry area a separate plot may be set apart for the conservation of rare species in the vicinity.
5. A catch water drain should be provided all along to manage the storm water from the upper slopes of the quarry area. The storm water should be clarified, a part of it stored by providing a RWH and the remaining water after desiltation and clarification to be safely disposed into the stream.
6. The house belonging to Mohammed Mustafa, T P House, is apparently within 100 m of the quarry area. However it was stated by the proponent that it is beyond 100 m. A fresh measurement is to be done and if found within 100 m, the boundary of the quarry area to be shifted accordingly. The details of the measurement are to be reported to the committee with the plan of the quarry showing the location of the houses and approach road.
7. It should be assured that the fly rock distance shall never exceed 100 m from the quarry face. (500m distance is given as danger zone in the EMP report under item 4.5.3)
8. The bench formation in the quarry must take into account the natural topography following the contours and not as given in the progressive mine plan. The ultimate depth of the quarry shall not be below the level of valley floor.
9. Assurance that green belt will be provided all around.
10. The CSR activity needs revision as discussed in the meeting.

The proposal was again considered by SEAC in its 62nd meeting held on 06th & 07th September, 2016 and deferred the item and the proponent to submit the following additional documents.

1. The house belonging to Mohammed Mustafa, T P House is apparently within 100 m of the quarry area. However it was stated by the proponent that it is beyond 100 m. A fresh measurement is to be done and if found within 100 m, the boundary of the quarry area to be shifted accordingly. The details of the measurement are to be reported to the committee with the plan of the quarry showing the location of the houses and approach road.

2. Revised CSR activities for meeting the local needs to be furnished.

The proposal was again considered in the 64th Meeting of SEAC held on 16th and 17th November 2016. The committee verified the additional documents submitted by the proponent and found satisfactory. Based on the Mining plan, Form.1, all other documents submitted with the proposal and the field visit report, the committee decided to recommend the item subject to the following specific conditions in addition to the general conditions.

1. *The approach to the quarry should be provided with an all weather road. The maintenance of it should be the responsibility of the proponent.*
2. *In the non-quarry area a separate plot may be set apart for the conservation of rare species in the vicinity.*
3. *A catch water drain should be provided all along to manage the storm water from the upper slopes of the quarry area. The storm water should be clarified, a part of it stored by providing a RWH and the remaining water after desiltation and clarification to be safely disposed into the stream.*

The proposal was considered by SEIAA in its 62nd meeting of SEAC held 23.12.2016. The Authority decided to send the proposal back to SEAC for confirmation whether the house belonging to Muhammed Mustafa is confirmed to be out of 100 m for consideration to issue EC.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The proponent had submitted the copy of the document which he had entered into with Mustafa for procuring the building within one year. Now he also produced an undertaking letter from the owners of the residential property saying that the building is not under occupation. Further as per the rules, the stipulation is that no quarrying operation is to be carried out within 100 m of the dwelling unit and that is one of the general conditions stipulated in the mining rules. In the above circumstances the Committee is of the opinion that there is no bar in issuing EC for the proposal.

The proponent vide e-mail dated 11th May 2017 informed that this is a proposed new quarry. Hence no lease or permit is executed. They will start the work after getting the environmental clearance.

The Authority decided to issue EC subject to the strict implementation of all specific conditions in addition to the general conditions as well as the conditions suggested by the field inspection report. An affidavit to this effect should be submitted before the issue of EC. It should also be mentioned in the affidavit that the referred dwelling unit mentioned in the inspection report shall be either demolished or that no quarrying operation shall be carried out within 100 meter of the dwelling unit.

Item No.68.11 Environmental clearance for the proposed building stone quarry project in Survey No. 11/2, 11/2-1, 11/4, 11/5, 11/5-1, 11/6, 11/7, 11/8, 11/9, 11/12-1-1, 11/13, 11/14, 11/15-1, 10/2-1, 10/2- 2, 10/3, 10/3-1, 10/13, 10/14, 10/15 & 10/16 Vellarada Village, Neyyatinkara Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram, District Kerala State by Mr. V. Sudhakaran, Managing Director, M/s Travancore Readymix Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 1070/EC1/2016/SEIAA)

Mr. V. Sudhakaran, Managing Director, M/s Travancore Readymix Pvt. Ltd. T.C. 54/928, Rohini Sadanam, Melamcode, Nemom P.O., Trivandrum, Kerala-695020, vide his application received online and, has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in Survey No. 11/2, 11/2-1, 11/4, 11/5, 11/5-1, 11/6, 11/7, 11/8, 11/9, 11/12-1-1,

11/13, 11/14, 11/15-1, 10/2-1, 10/2- 2, 10/3, 10/3-1, 10/13, 10/14, 10/15 & 10/16 Vellarada Village, Neyyatinkara Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram, District Kerala State for an area of 3.2658 hectares. The project comes under Category B, Activity 1(a), (i) as per the Schedule of EIA Notification 2006 (since it is below 50 hectares) and as per O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dated 18th May 2012 of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The proponent intimate that the proposed project already taken in the District level and they are requesting for the withdrawal of application.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. As the proposal is being considered by the DEIAA the proponent has withdrawn the application.

The Authority decided to give permission to withdraw the application.

Item No:68.12 Environmental clearance for the proposed Housing project (“The Nature by Heera”) in Survey nos. 275/2, 275/2-1, 275/2-2, 275/9, 275/10, 275/11, 275/12 at Attipra Village, Trivandrum Taluk and Trivandrum District, application of Dr. A. R. Babu, Managing Director for M/s Heera Construction Co. Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 969/SEIAA/EC1/4479/2015)

Dr. A. R. Babu, Managing Director, M/s Heera Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., Heera Park, M. P. Appan Road, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695014, vide his application received on 27-10-2015, has sought environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 for the proposed Housing Project (“The Nature by Heera”) by M/s Heera Construction Co. Pvt. Ltd. in Survey Nos. 275/2, 275/2-1, 275/2-2, 275/9, 275/10, 275/11, 275/12 at Attipra Village, Trivandrum Corporation, Trivandrum Taluk & District, Kerala. It is interalia, noted that the project comes under the Category B, 8(a) of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006. The total plot area is 2.2076 ha. No forest land is involved in the present project. Other details of the project are as follows:

The proposal was first placed in 59th meeting of SEAC held on 11th and 12th July, 2016 and deferred the item for field visit to check the road width and asked for the following clarifications-

1. Details of impact of wind direction on the building., Lay out plan in a more readable scale., Copy of building permit., Longitudinal section from North West to South East corner of the plot with depth of cutting and filling and marking the level with respect to the road entry level., Drainage and sewage plan., Excess earth storage details., Circulation plan and emergency evacuation plan., Access road width.

The subcommittee consisting of Sri. S. Ajayakumar, Sri. John Mathai and Sri. Sreekumaran Nair conducted the site inspection of the project of Sri. A.R. Babu, Managing Director, M/s Heera Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., Heera nature at Manvila, Attipra village on 30.9.2016. The report is as follows:

There is considerable difference in the contour plan submitted earlier and cross section drawing submitted on direction by SEAC during the presentation. The representatives could not explain the discrepancy. During the site visit, it was found that earthwork excavation to a depth of 5.7 m is already done presumably based on an

earlier building permit received from local body. The proposal may be recommended based on the following conditions.

- a. Minimum 5 m gap should be provided between 4 main blocks to facilitate adequate wind flow.*
- b. Rain water storage capacity should be enhanced to 3000KL.*
- c. Considering the elevated nature of the plot, dependable source of water must be provided*
- d. Roadside drainage should be provided by the proponent on his own cost till the available road side drainage which is about 600 m away. Storm water recharge pits of adequate capacity should be constructed. Its plan should be submitted.*
- e. Solid waste disposal system and sewage disposal system should be provided in house*
- f. Width of the access road is only 7.5 m. It is argued that there is another road abutting rear side of the plot and therefore the proposal may be permitted. However, on inspection, this rear side road is joining the front side road and therefore cannot be considered as a separate road. A project of this size needs at least 10 m wide road. Therefore the area of the building may be limited considering the capacity of the 7.5 m wide access road. A road having 7.5m width can accommodate about 24000 m² of area as per Kerala Municipal Building Rules. A local wayside market gathering affects smooth traffic flow and relocation of market founds inevitable as the width of road is extremely inadequate to contain even existing traffic flow .Therefore, the committee may consider limiting the building area to 24000m² (twenty four thousand square metres only).*

In the note file of this file, a noting is seen that a pond is existing in the cadastral map. SEIAA may take cognizance of this matter.

The proposal was considered in the 64th Meeting of SEAC held on 16th and 17th November 2016. The committee verified the proposal and the field verification report and observed that, considering the hustle-bustle of the local wayside market, the available road width of 7.5m is extremely inadequate to contain the existing traffic flow. Hence the committee decided that it is better to reduce the built up area to 24000m². Hence the Committee recommended to SEIAA either to reject the proposal or to suggest the proponent to resubmit it with the following changes.

- 1) The built up area must be reduced to 24,000m².
- 2) Minimum 5 m gap should be provided between 4 main blocks to facilitate adequate wind flow.
- 3) Adequate rain water harvesting provisions should be provided
- 4) Roadside drainage should be provided by the proponent on his own cost up to the existing road side drainage which is about 600m away.
- 5) Solid waste disposal system and sewage disposal system should provided

The proposal was considered in the 62nd meeting of SEIAA held on 23.12.2016. The Authority decided to send the proposal back to SEAC for clear recommendation particularly examining how

the first 2 conditions can be fulfilled and also considering the points raised in the Inspection Report.

The proposal was again considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The recommendations of Committee was made after giving due consideration to various environmental aspects of the proposal. The proposal in its original form is found unfit to be recommended for EC. But if the proponent is ready to modify and limit the built up area to a maximum of 24,000 m² as indicated under item (f) of the site inspection report, the width of the access road will be able to accommodate the traffic generated by the project. So it is left to the wisdom of SEIAA either to reject the proposal or to give an option to the proponent to resubmit the application as suggested above. Hence the Committee found no reason to change its earlier decision.

The Authority decided to direct the proponent to resubmit the application as per the building rules by limiting the built up area to a maximum of 24,000 m² so as the width of the access road will be able to accommodate the traffic generated by the project.

Item No:68.13

Environmental clearance for the proposed housing project (“Heera Atmosphere”) in Sy. Nos. 2659/A3, 2659/B, 1501, 1501/1, 1502/A, 1503, 1499, 1500, 1502/B, 2659/A2, 2659/A1, 1498, 1498/1, 1498/1-1, 1487, 1504/1, 1504/8-5, 1496/B1-2-1, 1496/A2-3-1, 1496/B1-2-4, 1496/B-1, 1496/A-2, 1496/B-1-2-2-1, 1489/1-1, 1488/6, 1488/7, 2671/1-2-1, 2671/1-1, 1495/1 at Kowdiar Village, Trivandrum Taluk and District. Application of Dr. A. R. Babu, Managing Director for M/s Heera Construction Co. Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 970/SEIAA/EC1/4480/2015)

Dr. A. R. Babu, Managing Director, M/s Heera Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., Heera Park, M. P. Appan Road, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - 695014, vide his application received on 27/10/2015, has sought environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 for the housing project in Survey Nos. 2659/A3, 2659/B, 1501, 1501/1, 1502/A, 1503, 1499, 1500, 1502/B, 2659/A2, 2659/A1, 1498, 1498/1, 1498/1-1, 1487, 1504/1, 1504/8-5, 1496/B1-2-1, 1496/A2-3-1, 1496/B1-2-4, 1496/B-1, 1496/A-2, 1496/B-1-2-2-1, 1489/1-1, 1488/6, 1488/7, 2671/1-2-1, 2671/1-1, 1495/1 at Kowdiar Village, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk & District, Kerala. It is interalia, noted that the project comes under the Category B, 8(a) of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006. No forest land is involved in the present project. The extent land is 2.2703 hectare. Other details of the project are as follows:

The proposal was first placed in 59th meeting of SEAC held on 11th and 12th July, 2016 deferred the item for field visit to check the road width and asked for the following clarifications-

1. Detailed site plan of the area., Plan of the catchment area and calculation of storm water quantity. Storm water channels in the plot and their connectivity to open stream to the east., Details of RWH structure., Details of sewage water treatment ., Traffic circulation and connectivity plan and width of access road., Emergency evacuation plan

The subcommittee consisting of Sri. S. Ajayakumar, Sri. John Mathai and Sri. Sreekumaran Nair conducted the site inspection of project of Sri. A. R. Babu, Managing Director, M/s Heera Construction Company Pvt. Ltd. Heera Atmosphere, Kowdiar village on 30.9.2016. the report is as

follows:

1. *The SEAC meeting has directed the proponent to provide adequate drainage capacity. The proponent has submitted drawings showing garland drains. These drains are to be developed and connected to existing drain of limited capacity. However, these road side drains should be increased in size to hold the peak rain flow and to avoid flooding of the road. Storm water /run off estimation to justify garland drain cross section and gradient to avoid scouring velocity is found inevitable. The public drain of entire catchment find its way to proponents property and unhindered flow is to be ensured to maintain easement right*
2. *Solid waste disposal system and sewage disposal system should be provided in house.*
3. *A project of this size needs at least 10 m wide road. There are two roads giving access to this site. The road leading to Kesavadasapuram have width ranging from 5.0 to 5.2 m and the one leading Muttada- Marappalam road is having a width of 5.2 to 5.7. Therefore, the committee may consider limiting the area of the building. A road having 6 m width can accommodate about 18000 m² of area as per Kerala Municipal Building Rules. Therefore, considering two such roads giving access to the plot, the committee may consider limiting the building area to 36000m²(Thirty six thousand square metres only).*

On receipt of the inspection report the proposal was considered in the 64th Meeting of SEAC held on 16th and 17th November 2016. The committee found that cadastral map attached is of Madathuvilakom village while the proposal is in Kowdiar village. SEIAA may verify before issuing EC. On examining the proposal and the field inspection report the Committee noted that a project of the proposed size should have a minimum of 10 m wide access road. Therefore decided to recommend to SEIAA either to reject the proposal or to suggest to the proponent to resubmit it with the following changes.

1. The built up area to be limited to 36000m².
2. Provide adequate solid waste disposal measures.
3. The cadastral map of the proposed area shall also to be produced.

The proposal was considered in the 62nd meeting of SEIAA held on 23.12.2016. The Authority decided to send the proposal back to SEAC for clear recommendation. The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The Committee noted that the original recommendation of SEAC is as below;

“On examining the proposal and the field inspection report the Committee noted that a project of the proposed size should have a minimum of 10 m wide access road. There are two roads giving access to this site. The road leading to Kesavadasapuram have width ranging from 5.0 to 5.2 m and the one leading to Muttada- Marappalam road is having a width of 5.2 to 5.7. These two roads cannot carry the traffic generated by the project of this size which will result in severe traffic bottlenecks in TKD road as well as road on other road leading to Kesavadasapuram thereby seriously affecting the surrounding population. Therefore the committee decided to recommend to SEIAA to reject the proposal. It is also observed that the cadastral map provided is of

Madathuvilakom village where as the proposal is in Kowdiar Village”.

The Authority decided to accept the recommendation of SEAC to reject the proposal.

Item No:68.14 Environmental clearance for Proposed Residential Project by M/s Skyline Builders in Sy. 9/2, at Elamkulam Village, Kanayannur Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by Sri. Shajith. K., Assistant General Manager, M/s Skyline Builders (File No. 990/SEIAA/ EC3/4811/2015)

Sri. Shajith. K., Assistant General Manager, M/s Skyline Builders., NH Bypass, Near EMC, Cochin, Kerala-682028, vide his application received on 23/09/2015 and has sought environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 for the proposed Residential project in Sy. Nos. 9/2, at Elamkulam Village, Kanayannur Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala. It is inter alia, noted that the project comes under the Category B, 8(a) of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006.

The height of the proposed building is 78 m and the total plot area of the proposed project is 0.5582 ha. (5,582 sq.m.) and total built-up area is about 31,249.58 sq.m. The total domestic water requirement of about 99 KLD (which includes daily fresh water requirement of about 65 KL). Treated water from STP to be used for flushing of toilets (about 34 KLD) and horticulture requirement (about 5 KLD). The major sources are Stored Rain water (tanks), Wells, KWA water supply and treated water from STP.

The total power requirement is 1,546 kW which will be sourced through Kerala State Electricity Board and D. G. Sets (320 kVA x 1 no. as back-up). Renewable energy devices used are solar water heating system for the hot water generation and solar power operated street lights. The project area and its surroundings falls under Zone III, according to the Indian Standards Seismic Zoning map. No forest land is involved in the present project. Total project cost is Rs. 58.89 Crores. Mangalavanam Bird Sanctuary is about 2.5 Km away. Total cost is Rs.58.89 Crores.

The proposal was placed in the 60th meeting of SEAC, Kerala, held on 28th and 29th July, 2016. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form 1, Form I A and Conceptual Plan. The proponent agreed that about 20% of the land is proposed to plant about 70 nos. of trees. The Committee decided to defer the item for field visit and asked for the following clarifications.

1. Rainwater storage for 15 days.
2. Energy conservation- LED for common area lighting and external lighting.
3. Outside parking facility.

Accordingly, Field inspection was conducted on 9.11.2016 by the sub-Committee of SEAC consisting of Sri S Ajayakumar and Sri John Mathai in the presence of the proponent.

The proposed building to house 141 apartments is located in a flat land close to the intersection of Desabhmani road and Kollam Parambil road near Kaloore, Kochi. An existing building locally known as *Koda veedu* is to be demolished for the construction. 2 m deep excavation is planned for the basement with removal of 6500 m³ of ordinary earth. Storm water is proposed to be let out into the roadside drain which has adequate capacity. Traffic circulation pattern is adequate. Parking provision for 163 four wheelers, 5 disabled cars and 178 two wheelers is provided. Water requirement is to be met from the bore well available at the site, rainwater

harvesting and KWA water which is found to be feasible. Solid waste disposal system and sewage disposal system is planned for the project. Green belt already provided around. Solar energy is planned for common lighting.

The project can be recommended after examination of following clarifications:-

1. Details of demolition of the existing building and its disposal
2. Clear write up on the solid waste disposal mechanism at the site during operational stage
3. Drawing for the assembly point in case of emergency
4. Yield test for the bore well to assess the dependable source of water
5. The existing tree belt on the periphery should be maintained even in the construction stage.

The proposal was considered in the 66th meeting of SEAC held on 19th December, 2016 and deferred the item for submission of the above clarifications sought in the field visit report, in addition of submitting a copy of the application for clearance from NBWL.

Subsequently the proponent submitted the above mentioned documents sought by the 66th SEAC.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The proposal was appraised by SEAC considering Form I, Form IA, Conceptual plan, field visit report and all other documents and details provided by the proponent. The Committee verified the additional documents submitted by the proponent and found satisfactory. The Committee decided to Recommend for issuance of EC subject to the general conditions in addition to the following specific conditions.

1. *Assembly point as mentioned in clarification submitted.*
2. *The existing tree belt on the periphery should be maintained.*
3. *Rainwater storage capacity should be for a minimum of 15 days requirement.*
4. *10% of the Power Consumption should be utilised from solar energy.*
5. *Minimum area of 30 m² should be earmarked for material recovery facility.*

The proponent agreed to set apart an amount of Rs.25 lakh over a period of 3 years for CSR activities for the welfare of the local community in consultation with the local body.

The Authority decided to issue EC subject to the above specific conditions in addition to the general conditions. An affidavit to this extent, and also stating that there is no canal, water bodies etc which is coming under CRZ should be submitted before the issuance of EC. CSR for Non-Recurring Health Care Expenses must be increased at least to 2% of total cost.

Item No : 68.15 Environmental clearance for the proposed Residential cum Commercial project in Sy. Nos. 126/2, 126/2-1 & 126/2-2 at Uliyazhathura Village and Thiruvanthapuram Jilla Panchayath, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvanthapuram District, Kerala application of Sri. Viju Varghese, DGM (MEP), M/s Artech Realtors Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 1023/SEIAA/EC1/114/2016)

Sri.Viju Varghese, Deputy General Manager, Artech Realtors Private Ltd, Artech House, T C /24/2014(1) Thycaud P.O., Thiruvananthapuram submitted application for Environmental Clearance of the Proposed Artech Urban Terrace , vide his application dated 10.01.2016 and has sought environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 for the Residential cum Commercial

project in Sy. Nos. 126/2, 126/2-1 & 126/2-2 at Uliyazhathura Village and Thiruvanthapuram Jilla Panchayath, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvanthapuram District, Kerala. It is interalia, noted that the project comes under the Category B, 8(a) of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006. No forest land is involved in the present project. The height of the proposed building is 58m and the total plot area of the proposed project is 9520 m² and the total built-up area is 51681.56 m². The total power requirement is 2000 KW which will be sourced through KSEB. Renewable energy devices used is solar water heaters. Keraladithyapuram Canal is the nearest water body is situated at a distance of 9.2 km. The proponent has stated that there is no litigation pending against the project and /or land in which the project is proposed to be set up. The total cost of the building is 102 crores.

The proposal was placed in the 64th meeting of SEAC held on 16th & 17th November, 2016. The committee is of the opinion that the rain water harvesting capacity is to be modified as per the built-up area. The yield test of bore well is to be conducted. Sufficient space for Material Recovery Facility for storing non bio degradable waste is to be provided. The quantity of solar energy to be produced to be indicated. The area earmarked for keeping solar energy battery to be clearly earmarked. The google map of the area empowering the project area to be provided.

The committee deferred for site inspection to verify the ground realities especially the following aspects.

- 1) Details of cutting & quantity of earth to be taken out.
- 2) Negotiation of curve.
- 3) To examine the possibility of buried pipelines of KWA in the locality.
- 4) Working of incinerators.

Site inspection for the Residential cum Commercial Project of Artech realtors in Uliyazhthura Village, Thiruvananthapuram district was conducted on 07.12.2016 by the sub-Committee of SEAC consisting of Sri S Ajayakumar and Sri John Mathai in the presence of the representatives of the proponent. They reported that the site is located in a lateritic ridge at Puthukunnu, located to the north of Powdikonam with access from the road connecting Powdikonam and Pothencodu. The plot occupies the crestal and south sloping part of the hill ridge. The main internal road is planned as a winding one with acute angle turning. Internal traffic circulation, entry and exit points were discussed and found to be inadequate due to the winding nature of the main road. Parking provided is adequate. Cutting and levelling is planned but specific details are yet to be finalised. Storm water is planned to be discharged into the existing drains to the north where the over flow from the KWA unit is discharged. One bore well is planned at the site as source of water. Project has planned to maximise use of solar energy. Solid waste management is planned with *in situ* segregation and disposal. A strip of private land separates the KWA facility from this unit. The main inlet/distribution lines are on the other side of the main road and may not interfere with the development of this project.

Following clarifications may be sought:-

1. Alternate/Modified conceptual plan with a) change in alignment of main internal road avoiding acute angle turning on slopes b) change in entry/exit with modified traffic circulation c) entry point to be brought to that of road level and d) provide a free space of at least a lane width (3.6 m) all along the main road for clear visibility to the winding part and traffic management.
2. Specific details of excavation, copy of structural drawings to assess the cutting and slope and quantity of earth to be taken out

3. Details of RWH facility - location and quantity to be stored.
4. Source of water to be developed internally. The yield must be specified.
5. Details of maximum use of solar energy with quantity.
6. Details regarding the mechanism of solid waste segregation and disposal
7. Connectivity to the existing road side drain to be ensured

The proposal was considered in the 67th SEAC Meeting held on 27th January 2017 and deferred the item for submission of the above clarifications sought in the field visit report.

Subsequently the proponent submitted the above mentioned documents sought by the 67th SEAC.

The proposal was considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. The proposal was appraised by SEAC considering Form I, Form IA, Conceptual plan, field visit report and all other documents and details provided by the proponent. The committee verified the additional documents submitted by the proponent and found satisfactory. The Committee decided to Recommend for issuance of EC subject to the general conditions in addition to the following specific conditions.

1. *Modified Conceptual Plan to be followed.*
2. *RWH capacity should be for a minimum capacity of 600 KL*
3. *10% of the Power Consumption should be utilised from solar energy.*
4. *Connectivity to the existing roadside drain to be ensured.*
5. *Material Recovery Facility will be a minimum of 40 m².*

The Authority decided to issue EC subject to the above specific conditions in addition to the general conditions. An affidavit should be submitted agreeing to follow the modified conceptual plan. EC will be issued only after getting an undertaking stating that 2% of the total cost should be spend for CSR activities in consultation with the local panchayath.

Item No:68.16 Environmental Clearance for Master Plan development of an IT/ITES SEZ township (“Infopark Phase-2 Campus”) project by INFOPARKS KERALA (Fully owned by Govt. of Kerala) Survey Nos. 79, 80, 82, 83, 84,85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 96, 97, 98, 102, 103,104, 144, 145, 146 in Puthencruz Village in Block 37 inVadavucode Puthencruz Grama Panchayat and Survey Nos.365, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377,378, 379, 380, 381, 384 in Kunnathunadu Village in Block 36 in Kunnathunadu Grama Panchayat Kunnathunadu Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by Sri. Mr. Hrishikesh Nair Chief Executive Officer, M/s Infoparks Kerala (1061/EC3/149/SEIAA/2016)

Mr. Hrishikesh Nair, Chief Executive Officer, M/s Infoparks Kerala Park Office, "Athulya", Infopark Kochi P.O., Kakkanad, Kochi, Kerala-682042, vide his application has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for Environmental Clearance for Master Plan development of an IT/ITES SEZ township (“Infopark Phase-2 Campus”) project by INFOPARKS KERALA (Fully owned by Govt. of Kerala) Survey Nos. 79, 80, 82, 83, 84,85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 96, 97, 98, 102, 103,104, 144, 145, 146 in Puthencruz Village in Block 37 inVadavucode Puthencruz Grama Panchayat and Survey Nos.365, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377,378, 379, 380, 381, 384 in Kunnathunadu Village in Block 36 in Kunnathunadu

Grama Panchayat Kunnathunadu Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala. It is interalia, noted that the project comes under the 8(b) Townships and Area Development projects of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006. No forest land is involved in the present project. The Plot Area is 50.81651 ha. and built up area is 12,79,594 sq.m. ha.

The proponent has stated that there is litigation pending against the project and /or land in which the project is proposed to be set up (High Courts, Kerala, WP (C) No. 29483 of 2013 (I), Case Between ECCI & Infopark with regard to termination of contract for construction of IT building complex at Infopark Kochi-Phase II, Case No. WP (c) No. 29483 of 2013 (I)).

The proposal was considered in the 62nd meeting of SEAC, Kerala, held on 06th & 07th September, 2016 and appraised the Terms of Reference (ToR) and decided to approve the draft ToR.

Now the proponent has submitted the EIA study report based on the approved ToR.

The proposal was again considered in the 69th meeting of SEAC held on 9th and 10th March 2017. Since the built-up area of the proposal is more than 3,00,000 sq.m, the matter is to be dealt with MoEF. So the proponent has withdrawn the application.

The Authority decided to accept the withdrawal of the application by the proponent.

**Item No: 68.17 Amendment of EC for Brahmapuram Diesel Power Plant (BDPP)
(File No. SEIAA/E3/1902/2015)**

Vide Letter No. CE (TP) BDPP conversion/2014-15/15 dated.23.05.2014 the Chief Engineer (Thermal Projects) had requested amendment to the EC which is already in place for the existing BDPP from MoEF. The BDPP was established in 1997 with 5 DG sets of 21-32 MW each for operation on LSHS. The existing 106 MW Diesel power plant has completed a life of 7 years and has been facing hurdles such as scare availability of requisite fact LSHs with less than 1% of Sulphur content. An immediate measure to revive the reduction in generation capacity of about 40 MW from BDPP and the board intends to replace the two faculty diesel engine sets with new gas engine generator sets operating on Natural gas as fuel, through an EPC contract by International competitive bidding.

The item was placed before 40th SEAC held on 27th & 28th May 2015 and decided not to take any action since the proponent has not submitted Form I application to SEIAA.

Authority considered the proposal in the 40th meeting held on 3rd & 4th August 2015. Authority accepted the recommendation of SEAC and decided to advise the KSEB to submit application as per rules/ guidelines.

Accordingly, a letter was forwarded to KSEB for the submission of Form I vide letter No.1902/EC3/2015/SEIAA dated 26.09.2015. Subsequently, the Form-I was submitted on 05.12.2015 to amend the existing Environmental Clearance in such a way that 40 MW of DG sets are replaced with gas engine based generator units of 39.86 MW capacity. But KSEB Limited, has resolved not to install the Gas Engine based generator units and to terminate the agreement with the EPC contractor based on the repeated denial of investment approval by the Hon'ble Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Now the BDPP has submitted a revised application in Form-I for amending the existing Environmental Clearance for 100 MV Brahmapuram Diesel Power Plant to that for 60 MW to

reflect the present position and superseding their earlier application. This is required, as KSEBL is proposing a 400+MW+R-LNG based Combined Cycle Power Project also at Brahmapuram, so that the total capacity is kept below 500 MW.

The proposal was considered in the 67th meeting of SEAC, Kerala, held on 27th January, 2017. The Committee deferred the item for presentation.

The proposal was placed in the 70th meeting of SEAC held on 04th & 05th April 2017. The Committee observed that the proposal is for an EC for decommissioning two generators of 20 MW each out of the five generators operating at Brahmapuram. This is suggested so as to limit the total generating capacity below 500 MW at Brahmapuram including that of the proposed 400 MW LNG based Combined Cycle Power Project for which EIA study is underway. After examining the records the Committee observed that such decommissioning of generators does not require EC. Hence the Committee decided to **recommend to reject the proposal.**

The Authority accepted the recommendation of SEAC and to reject the proposal.

Item No.68.18 Environment Clearance for proposed Sree Ayyappa Medical College & Research Foundation project in Survey No. 453/1,453/17,453/9, 453/20,453/10,453/14- 1, Vadasserikkara Village, Ranni Gramma Panchayath, Ranni Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala State by Dr. P.Suyambu Nadar , Managing Trustee, M/s PSN Educational & Charitable Trust (File No. 1083/EC4/SEIAA/2016)

Dr. P.Suyambu Nadar, Managing Trustee, M/s PSN Educational & Charitable Trust, No. 12, Court Road, PS Nadar Building, Nagarcoil- 629 001, Tamilnadu, vide his application received online and, has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the proposed Sree Ayyappa Medical College & Research Foundation project in Survey No. 453/1,453/17,453/9, 453/20,453/10,453/14-1, Vadasserikkara Village, Ranni Gramma Panchayath, Ranni Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala State. It is inter alia, noted that the project comes under the Category B(1), 8a, of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006.

The total plot area of the proposed project is 1,13,367 Sq.meter and total built-up area about 1,00,123.63sq.meter. The total fresh water requirement is 688.52 KLD and the major sources are Bore well water, rain water harvesting tank and treated water from STP. The total power requirement is 2004 kWh which will be sourced through Kerala State Electricity Board and D. G. Sets (Standby source - 1000 KVA (1 No) & 750 KVA (1 No). The project area and its surroundings falls under Zone III, according to the Indian Standards Seismic Zoning map. No forest land is involved in the present project.

The proposal was placed in the 70th meeting of SEAC held on 04th & 05th April 2017. Since the project is proposed in Vadasserikkara Village, which is an ESA Village, the Committee decided to recommend to reject the proposal.

The Authority accepted the recommendation of SEAC and decided to reject the proposal.

Item No: 68.19 Environmental Clearance for the proposed Granite Building Stone quarry project in Sy. Nos. 197/2, 198/2, 203/3 and 369/1(P) at Koppam Village, Ottapalam Taluk (New Taluk – Pattambi), Palakkad District, Kerala by M/s Marath Enterprises and Crushers Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 310/SEIAA/KL/1693/2014)

Sri. P.K. Subramanian, Managing Director of M/s Marath Enterprises and Crushers Pvt. Ltd. vide application received on 11.4.2014 has sought Environmental Clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 for granite building stone quarry project in Sy. Nos. 197/2, 198/2, 203/3 and 369/1(P) at Koppam Village, Ottapalam Taluk (New Taluk – Pattambi), Palakkad District, Kerala. No forest land is involved in the present project. The project comes under Category B, Activity 1(a), (i) as per the Schedule of EIA Notification 2006 (since it is below 50 hectares) and as per O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II (M) dated 18th May 2012 of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The project proposal was first placed in the 30th SEAC meeting held on 6th & 7th June 2014. The Committee found that the applicant has not provided the signed declaration in the prescribed format of Form 1. Also, it was found that the basic information and the additional copies of proposals sought by the Secretariat of SEAC/SEIAA have also not been produced. Hence the item was deferred. On receipt of the signed declaration in Form 1, mining plan, processing fee, basic information and the additional copies of proposals sought by the Secretariat of SEAC/SEIAA for circulation to SEAC members, the proposal was again considered by SEAC in its 54th meeting held on 6/7-04-2016. The proponent and the RQP attended the meeting. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-feasibility Report & Mining Plan and recommended the proposal for issuance of EC subject to general conditions on production of more realistic CSR before SEIAA. As decided by 54th SEAC, the proponent has submitted a more realistic CSR to SEIAA.

Thereon the proposal was considered by SEIAA in its 55th meeting held on 16th July 2016 and Authority found that the recommendation has been made without site inspection. In so far as the application was given two years back and pending for submission of revised Mining Plan and other defects in the application, and the situation in the intervening period is not clear, Authority decided that site inspection by SEAC is necessary to verify the statements in the application and documents submitted by the proponent, and to satisfy the sufficiency of the undertakings given therein. SEAC may be requested to make available the report within one month.

“Authority as a general rule decided that site inspection is required for all quarries, in so far as small quarries are also posing serious environmental concerns. In their appraisal DEIAAs also must follow this guide line. Appraisal by SEAC/ DEAC shall also include a site inspection report”.

The proposal was again considered in the 68th meeting of SEAC, Kerala, held on 20th SEAC meeting held on & 21st February 2017. The Committee examined the suggestions made by SEIAA and decided to defer the item for site inspection.

In the meanwhile the proponent filed a W.P(C) No.129 of 2017 against SEIAA and the Hon’ble High Court vide judgment dt.02nd March 2017 *dispose the writ petition with a direction to the 1st respondent (Chairman, SEIAA) to ensure that a final decision is taken on the application submitted by the petitioner for environmental clearance, within an outer time limit of two months from the date of receipt of a copy of the judgement which was received in the SEIAA office by mail dt.27.03.2017 from Mail ID sangeetha7576@gmail.com, after the site inspection and after hearing the petitioner.*

Accordingly, field visit to the quarry project was carried out by the Subcommittee of SEAC comprised of Dr. E.A. Jayson & Dr.K.G.Padmakumar on 1st April 2017. Field visit report is given below:

This is a quarry project owned by Sri. P.K. Subramanian, Managing Director of M/s Marath Enterprises and Crushers Pvt. Ltd. Vide application received on 11.4.2014 he has sought Environmental Clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006 for granite building stone quarry project in Sy. Nos. 197/2, 198/2, 203/3 and 369/1(P) at Koppam Village, Ottapalam Taluk (New Taluk – Pattambi), Palakkad District, Kerala.

No forest land is involved in the present project. The project comes under Category B, The project proposal, first placed in the 30th SEAC meeting held on 6th & 7th June 2014, was found defective without a signed declaration in the prescribed format of Form 1. Also, it was found that the basic information and the additional copies of proposals sought by the Secretariat of SEAC/SEIAA have also not been produced. Hence the item was then deferred.

- The proposal was again considered after rectification, by SEAC in its 54th meeting held on 6/7-04-2016. The Committee recommended the proposal for issuance of EC subject to general conditions on production of more realistic CSR before SEIAA.*
- As suggested, the proponent has submitted a more realistic CSR to SEIAA.*
- SEIAA in its 55th meeting held on 16th July 2016 found that the recommendation has been made without site inspection and hence and sent back for site inspection by SEAC .*
- The proposal was again considered in the 62nd SEAC meeting held on 6th & 7th September 2016. The Committee observed that the question of site inspection has been debated in detail , field visit is decided as- only need based*
- Finally SEIAA in the matter in its 48th meeting held on 23.01.2016 took up this and sent the same back insisting that as a general rule site inspection is necessary for all quarry projects.*
- In this context, the applicant has approached the Honble High Court with prayers for environmental clearance for the project.*

In compliance of directions of the Hon'ble High Court , a team consisting of Dr. Jayson E.A., and Dr K.G.Padmakumar visited the site on 1st April and report as follows:

- 1. No forest land is present within 1 km.*
- 2. There is another operating quarry with in a distance of 265 m .*
- 3. The proponent has not started operation and there is no violation in this respect*
- 4. CSR commitment has been enhanced as suggested, and the same has been submitted*
- 5. The proponent has enough water source to operate the quarry and crusher unit.*
- 6. The proponent has installed an advanced dust free crusher unit, environment friendly, which require very low water requirement.*
- 7. The road entrance to the project site is wide and safely walled to avoid disturbance to the local residents nearby.*

However, in addition to general guidelines to be insisted, the proponent shall ensure installation of display boards/ sign boards, etc. Workers rest places and essential facilities should be created before operation. Outflow of sediment water should not be allowed and for this a sedimentation tank of proper size shall be put to operation. Subject to these suggestions, the committee suggest early action to recommend for environment clearance to this project.

The proposal was placed in the 71st SEAC Meeting held on 20th & 21st April 2017. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-feasibility Report, Mining Plan, field inspection report of the Sub Committee and all other documents submitted with the proposal. The Committee decided to Recommend for issuance of EC subject to general conditions in addition to the following specific condition for mining.

1. *Outflow of sediment water should not be allowed and for this a sedimentation tank of proper size should be put to operation.*
2. *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*

A commitment may be obtained from the proponent to set apart Rs.9 lakh (non-recurring) and Rs.9 lakh per annum (recurring) for CSR activities for the welfare of the local community in consultation with the local Panchayat.

The Authority decided to issue EC subject to the strict implementation of all specific conditions in addition to the general conditions. An affidavit to this effect should be submitted within 10 days of the receipt of the EC. An undertaking stating that 2% of the total cost should be spend for CSR activities in consultation with the local panchayath should also be produced.

Item No: 68.20 Judgment dated 11/4/2017 of High Court in WP(C) No.12018/2016 filed by M/s. Puliyanikkal Granites to provide proper protection to carry out quarrying

EC No. 44/12 was issued to M/s.Puliyanikkal Granites vide proceedings No: 44/SEIAA/KL/7164/2012 dated 22/2/2013. The Environmental Clearance was issued after conducting proper scientific study by SEAC and based on the recommendations of SEAC and SEIAA. SEAC recommended to issue Environmental Clearance in the 11th meeting held on 9-1-2013. SEIAA decided to give Environmental Clearance in the 14th meeting held on 22/1/2013. In the meantime, the proponent has filed WP(C)No.12018/2016 in the Hon.High Court seeking police protection to continue quarrying operation. He impleaded 28 respondents of whom 4 are officials. Member Secretary, SEIAA was impleaded as additional 30th respondent. The Hon.High Court vide order dated 11-4-2017 directed, additional 30th respondent (SEIAA) to depute a team of officers to inspect the site and submit a report to the court on or before 22-5-2017 as to having regard to the location and lie of the land, quarrying activity can be permitted therein. In pursuance to the request of SEIAA, the Secretary, SEAC (Director, Environment & Climate Change) requested members of SEAC to inspect the site and give report vide letter dated 25/4/2017. Therefore once again the file was forwarded to the Chairman, SEAC (through its secretary) to depute a team of experts and competent officers to inspect the site mentioned in the EC No.44/2012, quarrying lease and movement permit and to submit report to SEIAA as to whether having regard to the location and lie of the land, quarrying activity can be permitted there in. It was informed that the members of SEAC will visit the quarry on 17.05.2017. Necessary arrangements should be made for the smooth field inspection of the quarry.

Item No. 68.21 General Items

i) Shortage of Project Assistant in SEIAA/SEAC

In view of the acute shortage of project assistant in the SEIAA office, it was decided to appoint the person available in the existing selection list on daily wages.

ii) Request of Data Entry Operator Smt.Malini.V to renew her contract

Permission was granted to renew the contract of Smt.Malini.V, Date Entry Operator w.e.f. the date of expiry of her contract (17.6.2017) and enhance her salary as per G.O.[P] No.28/2016/Fin dated 26.02.2016 under category III.

iii) The letter No. A1/195/2017/Envvt dt.22.04.2017 of Additional Chief Secretary to allot two rooms to KCZMA.

There is acute shortage of space in SEIAA office even to accommodate its own present staff. Still the room occupied by the administrator was hand over to DoECC for the use of KCZMA.

iv) Minutes of the Video Conference with Chairpersons of the DEIAA held on 28th April 2017 at 2 pm.

Since the minutes of the Video Conference is already published by the Industrial Department vide order No 358/A3/2016/ID date 09/05/2017 there is no need to take further action.

v) Minutes of the meeting held by Hon.Chief Minister to discuss the problem facing the mining and construction sector of the State as per letter No.358/A3/2016

As it involves several policy decisions the matter was deferred to take the decision in consultation with the SEAC

vi) Draft compliance Audit Report for inclusion in the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Economic Sector for the year ended 31 March 2016- Government of Kerala- Adherence to Environmental Laws by Apartments, Commercial Complexes, Hospitals, Hotels and Industrial units.

It was decided to reply to the issues raised by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India at the earliest.

Sd/-
Dr. K.P. JOY
Chairman

Sd/-
Dr. J. SUBHASHINI
Member

Sd/-
Sri.JAMES VARGHESE.I.A.S
Member Secretary