

**MINUTES (Confirmed) OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE  
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY  
(SEIAA) KERALA HELD ON 22.02.2013 AT THE  
DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

The following persons were present:

1. Dr. A.E. Muthunayagam - Chairman, SEIAA  
Former Secretary to Government of India
2. Dr. K.P. Joy - Member, SEIAA  
Former Director, School of Environmental Studies  
of M.G. University and Kannur University
3. Shri. James Varghese IAS - Member Secretary, SEIAA  
Principal Secretary to Government  
Environment, Ports & Fisheries Department  
Govt. of Kerala
4. Sri. P. Sreekantan Nair - Secretary, SEAC (special invitee)  
Director, Department of Environment  
& Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala

The meeting was chaired by Dr. A.E. Muthunayagam. He welcomed all the members. The Authority discussed the agenda items one by one and took the following decisions:

**Item No. KLA/15. 01                      Remarks by Chairman and Members of SEIAA**

The Authority reviewed the process of granting EC to projects and wanted to accelerate the process. The Authority observed that the draft minutes of the SEIAA meetings are prepared by SEIAA Secretariat and sent to all members for views/comments. The final draft, incorporating the comments of all members is submitted by SEIAA Secretariat to Chairman SEIAA. The Chairman approves the final draft with or without modification. The approved minutes of SEIAA meeting is circulated to all members by SEIAA Secretariat. This is further confirmed in the next SEIAA meeting and actions are initiated by the Secretariat only after confirmation. After discussion to accelerate the process, the Authority decided that members shall communicate their objections, if any, to the SEIAA Secretariat within two days of receipt of the minutes approved by Chairman. After two days, Secretariat will initiate all actions on the approved minutes, if no objection is received by then. As at present the confirmation of the approved minutes shall be done in the next SEIAA meeting.

The Authority observed that EC for mining proposals for areas less than 50 hectares are not cleared within 10 days as directed by the Supreme Court. Chairman SEIAA informed about his consultation with Chairman, SEIAA Tamilnadu and proposed that a combined meeting be organized with the SEIAA and SEAC of Kerala as done in Tamilnadu. He pointed out that there is no provision for such combined meeting in the EIA Notification 2006 and at the same time there is no bar on such meetings. This is an administrative procedure for SEIAA to get the recommendation from SEAC and take decisions. Member Secretary pointed out that as per the provisions of EIA Notification 2006 SEAC require to meet and forward recommendations while SEIAA require to meet and decide on approval / rejection of EC. Chairman informed that SEIAA Tamilnadu is conducting joint meetings and keeping MoEF informed of it and has not received any objection from MoEF. Chairman suggested that he will send a DO to Secretary MoEF with the procedure proposed by SEIAA Kerala and request for acknowledgment and objections if any. The Authority discussed the draft proposal on the procedure to be adopted for processing mining applications and approved it with modifications. The approved procedure is annexed to this minutes.

Authority discussed about the staff position in SEIAA. OIC-SEIAA mentioned about his proposal dated 05.10.2012 to the Principal Secretary, Department of Environment requesting for 40 additional posts to the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DoECC). This included 17 posts for SEIAA. Director, DoECC informed that he has deputed 2 staff from the department to attend to the activities of SEIAA including SEAC. He has not received any additional posts to support SEIAA activities. He expressed his difficulty in sparing additional personnel to SEIAA. Chairman expressed his view that only 2 staff to address all activities is too meagre for successful functioning of SEIAA. Authority requested Principal Secretary, Environment Department to send a proposal to Government exclusively for SEIAA activities which is newly added to the Environment Department.

Chairman pointed out the inadequacy in the agenda notes. Authority noted that the agenda notes and minutes of SEAC meetings are lacking clarity and focus. When certain reference is made to SEAC to give expert opinions, the notes in response should reflect the subject referred, the inputs examined and the expert opinion/assessment. These are missing and Secretariat was requested to update the files suitably. However SEIAA decided to process the proposals for EC based on the records available and clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC. The Authority directed that the agenda notes in future shall be in the format already specified. SEIAA decided that SEAC, while recommending specific conditions to be stipulated it shall be specific, well defined and enforceable and the rationale/basis should also be indicated wherever necessary. It was also agreed to add the following in the General Conditions of Environmental Clearance for mining projects:

1. Corporate Social Responsibility agreed upon by the proponent should be implemented.
2. Overburden materials should be managed within the site and the old quarries, if any, should be reclaimed and restored.
3. Height of benches should not exceed 5 m and width should not be less than 5 m.
4. Mats to reduce fly rock blast to a maximum of 15 PPV should be provided.
5. Mining depth should not exceed beyond 40 m, unless otherwise specified, or not below the level of nearest stream bed, whichever is less.

The Authority also held detailed discussion on the OM No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dt. 12.12.2012 on the consideration of the proposals for TORs/Environmental Clearance/CRZ Clearance involving violation of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 / EIA Notification 2006/CRZ Notification 2011 and decided to bring to the kind attention of the Government of those violators to whom Environmental Clearance have already been issued and to initiate credible action against them. Chairman SEIAA agreed to send a letter to Government of Kerala regarding this.

**Item No. KLA/15. 02** Confirmation of the minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) Kerala

Confirmed the approved minutes.

**Item No. KLA/15. 03** Action taken report on the decisions of the 14<sup>th</sup> SEIAA Meeting

Noted the report on actions taken.

**Item No. KLA/15. 04** Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey Nos. 396/1-A & 396/1-B2 at Varapetty Village, Varapetty Panchayath, Kothamangalam Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by M/s Parackal Granite Kerala Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 39/SEIAA/KL/7083/2012)

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. A minimum buffer distance of 50 m should be left on either side of the approach / internal road without conducting quarrying activities.
2. Boundary along the roads where at present quarrying is going on, should be provided with protective walls/restricting walls to avoid accidents.

**Item No. KLA/15. 05**

**Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey Nos. 80/1A2, 80/1A17, 80/1A18 & 79/2 at Arakuzha Village, Arakuzha Panchayath, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by M/s Hanna Rock Products Pvt. Ltd. (File No. 42/SEIAA/KL/7159/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. Advancement of active quarry face should be a top to bottom approach.
2. Benches should not be oriented in straight line but should follow the topography as agreed in the proposal.

**Item No. KLA/15. 06**

**Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey No. 1411 at Kanichar Village, Kanichar Panchayath, Thalassery Taluk, Kannur District, Kerala by M/s New Bharat Stone Crusher & Hollow Bricks Industries (File No. 43/SEIAA/KL/7163/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. A buffer distance of at least 100 m from the quarry to the main road should be maintained.
2. The required distance from the HT line to be maintained as prescribed by KSEB.
3. Depth of mining should not exceed 35 m below ground level as given in the proposal.

**Item No. KLA/15. 07**

**Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey No. 283 at Mazhuvanoor Village, Mazhuvanoor Panchayath and Sy. Nos. 284/1-2, 284/1-3, Arkapady Village, Vengola Panchayat, Kunnathunadu Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by M/s Cochin Granites Pulickal Associates (File No. 45/SEIAA/KL/7166/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. Already created benches should be reclaimed.

2. Local species of plants like Anacardium spp., Mangifera spp., etc. should be used for landscaping.
3. M-sand washings are to be collected in separate series of settling tanks and recycled.

**Item No. KLA/15. 08**      **Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey No. 288/1, Block 32 at Koodal Village, Kalanjoor Panchayath, Adoor Taluk, Pathanamthitta District, Kerala by M/s Mavalan Granites Private Limited (File No. 51/SEIAA/KL/7509/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. Drainage channels and storm water management plans as agreed should be implemented.
2. A safe minimum buffer distance of 100 m should be maintained from the forest boundary without any activity.

**Item No. KLA/15. 09**      **Application for environmental clearance for the proposed additional facilities within the campus of St. Joseph's College of Engineering & Technology, Palai, at Block No. 36 in Re-survey Nos. 78/6-1, 78/4, 80/3, 80/4, 85/2, 85/3, 85/3-2, 85/3-1, 113/5, 111/2-1, 111/2-2, 114/4-2, 114/5-1, 113/3-1, 116/10, 116/3, 116/3-1, 115/1-1, 104/1, 105/1, 105/2, 106/1, 111/1, 111/3, 112/2-2, 112/2-3, 113/1-1 and Block No. 35, Re-survey No. 352/3-1 at Bharananganam Village and Panchayath, Meenanchil Taluk, Kottayam District, Kerala by M/s Diocesan Technical Education Trust, Palai (File No. 53/SEIAA/KL/7581/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. No construction should be made in survey numbers which are recorded as 'nilam' in land documents as per Kerala Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008. The areas mentioned as 'nilam' should not be reclaimed.
2. All the storm water should be directed to the ponds proposed in the project area.
3. RWH should have a total minimum capacity of 1500 KL.
4. Ponds of a total capacity of 3000 KL should be maintained in the area.
5. The manure produced from the biogas plant should be exclusively used in green area development.

6. The sewage after treatment should be used for flushing and horticultural purposes.
7. Dual plumbing system and recycling of treated waste should be resorted to.

**Item No. KLA/15. 10**      **Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey Nos. 200/1, 202/2, Block 27 at Oorgattiri Village, Oorgattiri Panchayath, Eranadu Taluk, Malappuram District, Kerala by M/s PMR Granites India Private Limited (File No. 55/SEIAA/KL/7583/2012)**

The Authority found that the mining depth of 465 m proposed in an area of 4.0152 hectare in the present proposal is not acceptable. As the listing of fauna, the proponent has provided a repeated list of biodiversity of flora. Two pits are suggested for quarrying operations, but lacks clarity. The proposed 40 trips of 20 T capacities per day do not tally with the quantity of material proposed to be excavated. Similarly so many factual errors were spotted in the proposal submitted. Hence the proposal is REJECTED directing the proponent to apply afresh avoiding factual errors.

**Item No. KLA/15. 11**      **Application for environmental clearance for the proposed construction of a Housing Project, at Kazhakuttom Village, Trivandrum Taluk, Trivandrum District, Kerala, in Sy.Nos. 40/10, 40/10-1, 37/11 & 40/17 by M/s Nikunjam Constructions Private Limited (File No. 8/SEIAA/KL/393/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. No bore well to be constructed in the site.
2. More number of open wells should be constructed in the site to meet the water requirements.
3. Height of the building should not exceed than that specified by the Airports Authority of India.
4. RWH capacity should be enhanced to a minimum of 10 lakh litres.
5. The width of internal road should be at least 6 m for the free movement of fire and rescue vehicles.
6. Violation proceedings to be reported to State Government.

SEIAA observed that the project proponent has initiated the construction activities prior to receipt of Environmental Clearance. He has accepted the violation and submitted the required affidavit with resolutions. EC to be issued after getting Government of Kerala reply on violation proceedings.

**Item No. KLA/15. 12**

**Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey Nos. 1094/1-A, 1094/1-A1, 1094/1-A6, 1097/7-A, 1097/6-B2, 1101/3, 1097/7-B, 1097/6-A2, 1094/1-A27, 1097/6-B3, 1097/7-C2 at Marady Village, Marady Panchayath, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by M/s St. George Granites (File No. 57/SEIAA/KL/7585/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. The storm water should be channelized to a pit that has to be retained in the central area of the proposed mine.
2. Indigenous varieties of horticultural crops having edible fruits should also be cultivated as part of eco-restoration.

**Item No. KLA/15. 13**

**Application for environmental clearance for the proposed quarry project in Survey No. 168 at Karukutty Village, Karukutty Panchayath, Alwaye Taluk, Ernakulam District, Kerala by M/s Planters Aggregates (File No. 58/SEIAA/KL/7586/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC the proposal is **approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. Storm water drainage channels and drainage line to the existing pond in the site and its exit from the site should be made fully functional.
2. The depth of mining should be restricted to the 30 m level as agreed in the proposal.

**Item No. KLA/15. 14**

**Report on the status of processing of the applications for Environmental Clearance by SEIAA Secretariat**

Noted.

**Item No. KLA/15. 15**

**Any other item with the approval of Chairman : Additional Item Application for obtaining environmental clearance for the proposed construction of a Commercial Complex Project at Village Pettah, Taluk Thiruvananthapuram, District Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala in Sy. Nos. 1545, 1545/1-1, 1503/1, 1498/1, 1545/1-2, 1548/1, 1548/1-1, 1548, 1501/2, 1502,**

**1503/1, 1498/1, 1498/3, 1550/1-1, 1550/1-2, 1551/3-1, 1551/3-2, 1551/3-3, 1550/2, 1543/2-2, 1542/A-1, 1542/A-2, 1542/B, 1544/2, 1543/2-3, 1543/2, 1544/3 and 1544 by M/s Yespeesons Enterprises (File No: 24/SEIAA/KL/970/2012)**

After detailed discussions on the proposal, clarifications provided by Secretary SEAC and analyzing the recommendations of SEAC and KCZMA the proposal is **approved for issuance of CRZ cum Environmental Clearance** stipulating the following specific conditions:

1. Storm water runoff to be channelized to drain into the water bodies present in the site which in turn can recharge the ground water without losing a single drop of water from the plot.
2. Should not construct deeper bore wells / filter point wells but can have open wells with larger diameter, say 5 m.
3. The open area should be provided with more green belts.
4. The quality of spill over effluent from STP shall be thoroughly monitored to keep it within limits before discharge.
5. Level of the basement should not affect free flow of ground water.
6. Construction should not exceed the height specified by Airports Authority of India.
7. No untreated effluents should be allowed to flow into the water body.
8. Solid or liquid waste shall not be dumped in CRZ area.
9. Groundwater shall not be tapped from CRZ area.

**Item No. KLA/15. 16**

**Concluding remarks by Member Secretary**

None.



**PROCEDURE FOR PROCESSING MINING PROPOSALS WITH LEASE AREA  
LESS THAN 50 HECTARES FOR ENVIRONMENT CLEARANCE BY SEIAA**

**KERALA**

1. All applications received by SEIAA shall be scrutinized by the SEIAA Secretariat against the check list. Missing inputs shall be called for from proponents.
2. When the application is complete in all respects, a file number shall be assigned by the SEIAA secretariat to the application. This shall be communicated to all SEIAA, SEAC members and the proponent through e mail and used in all future communications.
3. All Project proponents shall send copies of the applications for EC and also additional information submitted to SEIAA to all members of SEAC, including its Chairman.
4. SEAC shall establish a check list indicating the environment related parameters against which the information supplied by the project proponent shall be verified and make specific recommendations for award or rejection of the EC. In case some specific input is required by any SEAC member for appraisal, a request may be sent to SEIAA secretariat by e mail.
5. SEIAA secretariat may obtain the clarification from the project proponent, preferably through e mail and present it in the next combined SEIAA and SEAC meeting or request the Project proponent to be present in the next combined meeting with details.
6. A combined meeting of SEIAA and SEAC under the chairmanship of Chairman SEIAA shall be organized normally once in a week at prefixed time to review and clear all proposals for mining EC which are complete with details. The agenda for this with notes shall be prepared and presented at the meeting by the SEIAA secretariat. Decisions to award or reject EC shall be made in the combined meeting. This decision shall be communicated to all members of SEIAA and SEAC by the secretary of the meeting through e mail.
7. SEIAA may prepare a format for granting EC with general conditions and specific conditions. Based on the decision of the combined meeting, draft EC shall be prepared by the secretary of the combined meeting in the already approved format at the end of discussions on every application in the combined meeting itself. This shall be signed by chairman and the secretary of that meeting. Files shall be maintained in the SEIAA secretariat.
8. SEIAA secretariat shall send the draft EC to all SEIAA members by e mail. Members of SEIAA shall communicate their approvals by e mail with or without modifications within a day. The file with all communications may be submitted to Chairman SEIAA who shall return it with approval the same day based on which EC may be communicated to the project proponent through e mail by OIC, SEIAA secretariat.
9. The formal EC shall be signed by all SEIAA members and the hard copy of the same shall be sent to project proponent as per normal procedures in vogue.