

Minutes of the meeting of the Oversight Authority, constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, through Video Conference with regard to Comprehensive Environmental Plan for Mining Impact Zone held on 18.06.2022.

Members Present:

Sl. No	Name of the Authority / Officer	Designation / organization
1.	Hon'ble Justice Sudershan Reddy	Chairman and Oversight Authority
2.	Shri. I.S.N.Prasad, IAS	Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department and Development Commissioner, Government of Kanataka.
3.	Shri. Pankaj Kumar Pandey, IAS	Secretary, to Government Commerce and Industries
4.	Shri. Prabhash Chandra Ray, IFS	Managing Director, KMERC
5.	Dr. C.V. Raman	Joint Director, DMG
6.	Shri. Omkar Kambi	Asst. Law Officer, C & I

The Managing Director, KMERC welcomed the Hon'ble Justice and Oversight Authority and the Chairman of KMERC and Secretary to the Government, Commerce & Industries deptt (MSME & Mines) and other officers to the meeting. At the very outset the Oversight Authority requested MD, KMERC to place the issues before the Authority.

Accordingly, MD, KMERC presented the power point slides before the Authority. The details of discussions held during the course of the meeting are given as under:

Sl.No.	Agenda points, Discussions and Decision of the meeting
1.	<p>Approval of two Private Freight Terminals (PFT) and Sublines.</p> <p>The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order pronounced on 21.03.2017 directed to submit a detailed proposal with regard to construction of conveyor belt system for the existing mines and</p>

Railway sidings and railway sublines. To start with, it had given thrust to take up construction of Railway infrastructure for eco-friendly evacuation of iron ore from the three districts, as priority over the socio-economic development.

Accordingly, on 25.10.2017 CEC submitted its report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court recommending 3 railway sidings and 2 connected railway sub-lines, besides, installation of 6 conveyor belts. The Hon'ble Apex Court had conveyed its approval on 07.12.2017 and directed KMERC to submit detailed project report with budgetary and financial requirements. They include (1) Dharmapur Railway siding & sub-line (2) Susheel Nagar Railway siding & sub-line and (3) Dhanapur Railway siding in Bellary district.

Accordingly, by taking the assistance of Rail India Technical and Economic Service Limited (RITES) feasibility studies have been carried out and after approval by Railway authorities, the DPRs have been submitted to Hon'ble Supreme Court in 9/2019.

The Oversight Authority intervened and requested MD, KMERC about the importance of order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 21.04.2022.

In response MD, KMERC stated that in the said order the Hon'ble Supreme Court said that :

“xii. Implementation of Railway Infrastructure as per Railway Backbone Report, including DPRs of railway sidings and sublines submitted to this Court may be considered by the Oversight Authority and implemented as may be required.”

Of the above three, **(1) Dharmapur Raiway siding & sub-line and (2) Susheel Nagar Railway siding and sub-line** need to be implemented at the earliest. These will facilitate most of the iron-ore movement through railways, instead of road. Also, the conveyor belts of 4 of the 6 mining leases, which have been

ordered to set up Conveyor belt by Hon'ble Supreme Court require these two sidings. As they would reduce the iron ore transportation through roads in lessor time with eco-friendly evacuation of mined ore of the region.

DHARMAPURA RAILWAY LINE – PRIVATE FRIEGHT TERMINAL AND CONNECTED SUB - LINE:

It consists of 8 lines, Track length of 13.06 Kms (8.56 + 4.500), requires 68.29 hectares of land, out of which 4.02 hectares covered under forest. Forest Clearances (FC) can be obtained from regional Office of MoEF itself, as the area required for forest clearances is less than 5.00 hectares.

Oversight Authority intervened and requested that, if the Authority gives its approval, can KMERC move the file for obtaining Forest Clearances. MD, KMERC replied that file will be moved to get FC clearance at an earliest.

Added to it, Additional Chief Secretary & development Commissioner, brought to the notice of the Authority that in respect of patta lands, the land acquisition can be done through the Deputy Commissioner and negotiation will be made. Accordingly, the matter can be resolved as the guidance values are already fixed for these regions.

MD, KMERC continued and informed the Authority that the total cost of the project, including land acquisition cost, is Rs. 167.88 Crores.

The Authority made a query that, do we need to invite Railway authorities to the discussions and do we need another meeting for the project. In response, MD KMERC replied that already feasibility studies have been conducted by RITES and approved by Railway authorities, hence there is no need to call them or have another meeting for these projects.

	<p>Decision: In principle approval for the project was given by the Oversight Authority. As soon as the revised cost for the project is obtained, the same need to be brought to the notice of the authority.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p>SUSHEEL NAGAR RAILWAY LINE – PRIVATE FRIEGHT TERMINAL:</p> <p>It consists of 4 lines, Track length of 14.431 Kms requires 58.65 hectares of land, out of which 4.87 hectares is forest. For this also, the Forest Clearances (FC) can be obtained at the regional office of MoEF itself, as less than 5.00 hectares is requiried and the project is linear one. The total cost of the project, including land acquisition cost, is Rs. 189.00 Crores.</p> <p>Decision: In principle approval for the project was given by the Oversight Authority. As soon as the revised cost for the project is obtained, the same need to be brought to the notice of the authority.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>PRIORITY PROJECTS- DRINKING WATER SUPPLY TO – BALLARI DISTRICT</p> <p>MD, KMERC brought to the notice of the Authority that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 21.05.2022 directed to have project priority. The operative portion of the said order is give as under:</p> <p><i>“ Priority of the projects and/or individual projects to be taken up and implemented by the KMERC under the said CEPMIZ plan shall be as per the discretion of the Oversight Authority”.</i></p> <p>MD, KMERC continued and informed the Authority that the project will provide 24 hours of pressurized continuous wter supply to balance 15 zones of Ballari City Corporation.</p> <p>Oversight Authority intervened and sought to know as to why drinking water scheme has been proposed for the City</p>

Corporation limits, and why projects for rural areas not proposed?

In response, both MD, KMERC and Additional Chief Secretary to Government & Development Commissioner submitted that under Central Government Jal Jeevan Mission and various other Government schemes, the rural water supply schemes are being implemented and the projects required under CEPMIZ are being processed for submission and will be placed shortly.

Agreed to it, the Authority felt to visit any one of the area of Ballari District to have an idea as how best the project can be implemented successfully.

The project requires Rs. 270.64 Cr. and the outlay for Drinking water supply schemes in the CEPMIZ for Bellary district is Rs. 2569.98 Crores. The project includes pipelines, 4 overhead tanks, supply and erection and commissioning of centrifugal pumps. The project is proposed by the Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board, through the Deputy Commissioner, Ballari. Oversight Authority, after detailed discussions and deliberations agreed to the project.

Decision: Oversight Authority approved the project.

4. PRIORITY PROJECTS- HEALTH – BALLARI DISTRICT:

MD, KMERC briefed that the present project is proposed by the Vijayanagara Institute of Medical Science, Ballari (VIMS) through the Deputy Commissioner, Ballari. The proposal is for reconstruction of 550 bed facilities to the Medical College Hospital (Block No.-II). The total cost of the project is Rs. 121.83 Crores and the duration of the project is three years. Further, it was brought to notice that Rs. 711.20 Cr. have been provisioned

for upgradation of various facilities in this Government Medical facility.

VIMS Ballari is the only centre for tertiary & higher treatment serving to the needs of the patients of 4 districts of Karnataka & 2 districts of Andhra Pradesh. The project promises to cater to the needs of the patients of Mining affected areas, who are presently referred to Hubli, Bangalore, and Davangere.

Oversight Authority raised the query that for the present infrastructure project, why CEPMIZ money shall have to be provided. In response, Additional Chief Secretary to Government & Development Commissioner submitted that several schemes have been funded by the Government. Where the Government is unable to spend its money, in such cases only CEPMIZ money is proposed to be utilized. As the project is very much helpful to all the connected rural areas and hence, the Hospital block should be upgraded. Oversight Authority, after detailed discussions and deliberations agreed to the project.

Decision: Oversight Authority approved the project.

5. PRIORITY PROJECTS- ECO-RESTORATION- VIJAYANAGARA DISTRICT:

MD, KMERC briefed that the proposal is for providing infrastructure to the newly set up, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Zoological Park, Kamalpur, Hospet Taluk, Vijayanagar district. The present proposal is submitted by the Zoo Authority of Karnataka. The total cost of the project is Rs. 11.40 Crores and the duration of the projects are from one to three years.

The projects will make the newly set up, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Zoological Park, Kamalpur, near Hampi world heritage site, as one of the prime attractions for the people n children of North Karnataka, which will help conservation efforts of forest and

wildlife. It will also support the facility towards becoming self sustainable.

At this juncture, the Oversight Authority sought to know that, whether for revised cost estimation of the projects, will the file move to the Finance Department? In response the Additional Chief Secretary to Government & Development Commissioner, informed that the Government is not funding the projects and CEPMZ money is outside the State Consolidated fund and hence it does not require approval of the Finance Department.

Oversight Authority requested not to take months to materialise the project and ensure that there will no intervention of the Legislatures and also to keep their views separately, as he will take the responsibility of the Oversight, as mandated by Hon'ble Supreme Court.

In response, Additional Chief Secretary to Government and MD, KMERC agreeing to the advises of the Oversight Authority, stated that they will cut down the procedures to reduce time for completing the task.

Decision: The Oversight Authority approved the proposal.

Meeting concluded with vote of thanks to the Chair.

**JUSTICE SUDERSHAN REDDY
OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY**

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Meeting regarding. Consideration of various projects to be implemented in Ballari, Vijayanagar, Chitradurga and Tumakuru districts as part of Comprehensive Environment Plan for Mining Impact Zone (CEPMIZ) under the chairmanship of Justice B Sudershan Reddy, Oversight Authority on 18th June, 2022 @ 12.00 Noon through virtual Meeting.

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Signature
01	Additional Chief Secretary & Development Commissioner and Chairperson, KMERC	through VC
02	Shri Pankaj Kumar Pandey, I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Dept., (MSME & Mines)	
03	Shri Prabhash Chandra Ray, I.F.S., Managing Director Karnataka Mining Environment Restoration Corporation (KMERC)	