

**Minutes of meeting with Dept of Health & Family Welfare held on
19 Feb 2025 at 10:30 AM under the Chairmanship of Oversight
Authority.**

The meeting was chaired by Justice Shri B. Sudershan Reddy, Hon'ble Oversight Authority (KMERC).

The list of participants is enclosed.

At the outset MD, KMERC welcomed the Hon'ble OA, and the other participants to the meeting.

He gave a brief account of fund allocation under CEPMIZ for the health sector, status of approved proposals and DPRs.

	No.	Rs in Crore
Total Fund Allocation under CEPMIZ		1159.58
OA Approved Projects	14	608.59
DPRs Received	10	245.73
DPRs Approved	9	241.32
Tenders Called	9	241.33
Work Orders Issued	4	52.38
Expenditure	4	1.47

He further informed that health sector is one of the sectors prioritized by Hon'ble OA and it has been decided to go for a saturation approach. A review meeting was held under the chairmanship of Advisor to OA and the issues have been discussed. It was found that the implementation is hampered due to HR issue and the Principal Secretary has identified innovative healthcare activities that may be taken up in mining-affected districts under the CEPMIZ fund. Hence, this meeting is convened to have an overall view of the sector so that solutions can be found and a call on the approach to be adopted for seeking projects.

Referring to the issue of HR, AOA brought to the notice that the health department projects are stalled because of lack of concurrence from the Finance department for creating posts and funding after 2 years. He informed that MD SMIORE has been invited today to explore the possibility of

contributing funds under its CSR initiatives to support health and welfare projects in mining affected areas.

AOA introduced the MD, Sandur Manganese and Iron Ores Ltd., and informed that the company has taken up a few social developmental activities in and around Ballari and Vijayanagara districts focusing on mining workers.

Hon'ble OA asked MD, Sandur Manganese and Iron Ores Ltd. to give a brief account of social activities taken up by the Company in the Sandur area.

In response, the MD, SMIORE gave an overview of the company's formation and informed that the company operates under "A" Category and uses GIS technology to define mining boundaries instead of manual methods. He further explained at length about the company's social initiatives, particularly its focus on mining workers and mining-affected people in Sandur. He mentioned that the company had begun providing food kits to employees in the 1970s, which is continued till today, costing around Rs. 4,000 per head, which contains essential items like rice, pulses, and health kits. Additionally, the company offers 8 subsidized LPG cylinders annually to employees at a rate of Rs. 500 each. Further, the company runs a handicraft center involving Lambani women and established the Sandur Karakushala Kendra, where over 450 Lambani women artisans and cultural practitioners set a Guinness World record for being the "Largest Display of Lambani Items" with over 1,755 items.

Hon'ble Oversight Authority asked opinion of the Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department with regard to seeking CSR funds. The Principal Secretary informed that out of 15 PHCs approved by the Hon'ble OA, the Finance Department has approved provision of HR for seven, hence, the department will be taking up these seven PHCs while the other eight proposals are being dropped. Further, he explained that the department is not pushing forward activities that do not align with established Govt norms, as the government is implementing projects in phases to address health infrastructure statewide. Due to the availability of funds under CEPMIZ for mining-affected districts, it is concentrating on implementing the project on priority basis in these districts.

He further mentioned that instead of establishing new PHCs, the department is concentrating on strengthening the existing PHCs as per the IPHS norms set

up by the Government. The department is focusing on strengthening through improving manpower in existing structures of PHCs and CHCs.

Other than norms, there are also activities that are desirable and are necessary for implementing in particular areas, which will be proposed under KMERC.

ACS & DC, and Chairperson KMERC noted that this will have a positive effect on neighboring districts and also have a demonstration effect on Kalyana Karnataka Region. She suggested the department submit the perspective list regarding the number of new PHCs proposed to be constructed and the upgraded by the department.

With regard to taking support under CSR for HR, the Principal Secretary informed that the department is seeking CSR funds to procure instruments following QCBS or LCA mode for monitoring the health of pregnant women. As this process takes time, he proposed that instead of seeking CSR support for HR, it would be helpful if the support is provided for such projects. He further submitted that he will have a meeting with MD, SMIORE in this regard and explore the areas of cooperation.

Further, with regard to KMERC projects, he submitted that the department plans to focus on saturating activities in 10 taluks in the first phase, and extending to other taluks in mining-affected districts in subsequent phases.

The Principal Secretary also presented innovative schemes that the department plans to implement in the state. Among them, Key proposals under the CEPMZ fund include:

- **Anaemia Prevention:** Provision of Nutritional Kits and additional incentives for pregnant women and provision of Vatsalya kits for post-natal mothers in districts of KMERC and Kalyan Karnataka.
- **Focus on TB eradication** through special Nutritional support to such patients and ensuring 100% coverage of the targeted population under BCG vaccination for adults.
- **HPV vaccination of girls** to prevent cervical cancer in selected taluks in the first phase.
- Upgrade Hosadurga/Molakalmuru Taluk Hospital into a 250-bed district-level hospital (DLH), which is located far from the district headquarters.

Hon'ble OA suggested drawing a mechanism to bring childcare into the scheme under CEPMIZ plan, where they also get priority. Further, he suggested that the district hospitals also need to be strengthened as they cater to certain ailments and facilities which do not exist in hospitals at the village or Taluka.

MD, KMERC suggested including a pulmonology center in Sandur as air pollution is at a high level leading to respiratory illness.

ACS & DC, Chairperson, KMERC suggested including the proposals focusing on Childcare and lung diseases and activities that can be brought to the mining-affected districts, which may have an impact on health care facilities and demonstrative effect on health infrastructure in nearby districts.

After detailed discussion, the Department was instructed to review proposals already approved and submit a list of proposals that the department wants to implement and the ones it intends to drop. Also, the department shall submit comprehensive proposals in the light of suggestions made, focusing on 10 mining-affected Taluks in the first phase.

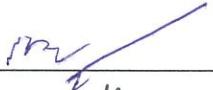
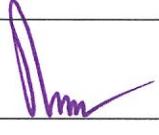
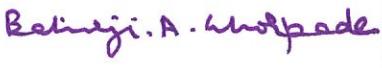
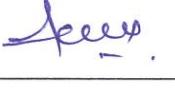
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Justice B. Sudershan Reddy
Oversight Authority

KARNATAKA MINING ENVIRONMENT RESTORATION CORPORATION

ATTENDANCE

Meeting Date: 19.02.2025 Time: 10.30 AM

Venue: Board Room, KMERC

Sl.No	Name	Designation	Signature
1	Hon'ble Justice B. Sudershan Reddy	Hon'ble Oversight Authority	
2	Sri. Balasubramanian, IAS., (Rtd)	Advisor, Hon'ble OA	
3	Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS.,	ACS & DC and Chairman, KMERC	
4	Dr. Sanjay S. Biju, IFS	Managing Director, KMERC	
5	BAHIRJI A. GHORPADE	MD, SMIORE	
6	RAUNDRAT Pati	SR. V.P - Corporate	
7	Dr. A. N. Desai.		
8	Harsh Gupta	Dr. S. Health	
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10	Dr. A. N. Desai.	Joint Director, planning	
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Meeting with R.C.D, SMIORE &
 Health Secretary regarding
 post project support from SMIORE