



**File No: 198/2024**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**(Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA),**  
**KERALA)**

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Dated 09/03/2025



To,

Sri. Benny C. Cherian

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Neelangal, Kunnackal, Valakam, Muvattupuzha, Ernakulma, Kerala - 682316

bennycworks@gmail.com

**Subject:**

Grant of EC under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-regarding.

**Sir/Madam,**

This is in reference to your application for Grant of EC under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006 regarding in respect of Ordinary Earth Mining Project of Sri. Benny C. Cherian submitted to the SEIAA, Kerala vide proposal number SIA/KL/MIN/489897/2024 dated 27/07/2024.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC24C0108KL5940743N
(ii) File No.	198/2024
(iii) Clearance Type	EC
(iv) Category	B2
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals
(vii) Name of Project	Ordinary Earth Mining Project of Sri. Benny C. Cherian
(viii) Name of Company/Organization	--
(ix) Location of Project (District, State)	Ernakulam, Kerala
(x) Issuing Authority	SEIAA, Kerala
(xii) Applicability of General Conditions	yes
(xiii) Applicability of Specific Conditions	yes

3. In view of the particulars given in Para 1 above, the project proposal interalia including Form-1 (Part A and B) were submitted to the Ministry for an appraisal by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Kerala under the provision of EIA notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments.

4. The above-mentioned proposal has been considered by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) in its 178<sup>th</sup>

meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) in its 153<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025. The minutes of the meeting and all the Application and documents submitted [(viz. Form-1 Part A, Part B, EMP, Mining Plan, etc.)] are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed by scanning the QR Code above.

5. The brief about project details, the Environmental Management Plan and Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) to be implemented or followed are annexed to this EC.
6. The SEAC, in its 178<sup>th</sup> meeting, based on information & clarifications provided by the project proponent and after detailed deliberations, recommended the proposal for the grant of EC for the project life of 1 (One) year under the provision of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof, subject to the stipulation of specific and general conditions as detailed in Annexure (1).
7. The SEIAA examined the proposal in its 153<sup>rd</sup> meeting in accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and after accepting the recommendations of the State Expert Appraisal Committee hereby decided to grant Environmental Clearance for the instant proposal of Sri. Benny C. Cherian. under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof.
8. **Environmental Clearance is hereby accorded to Sri. Benny C. Cherian, Nellangal, Valakam, Ernakulam for the Ordinary Earth mining project, for an area of 0.7243 Ha at Survey No. 227/1pt, 227/2pt in Valakam Village, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam, for the project life of 1 (One) year from the date of issuance of the mine permit, for the quantity reassessed by the Mining and Geology Department by restricting the depth of mining to 2 m bgl.**
9. Validity of the Environmental Clearance will be for **1 (One) year**, subject to the earlier review by SEAC in case of violation or non-compliance of conditions or genuine complaints from residents within the security area of the quarry.
10. Violation of any of the Specific & General Conditions annexed (1), as applicable to the particular case will entail cancellation of the Environmental Clearance, in addition to legal action under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Non-compliance, if any shall be reported to the District Collector, Ernakulam or SEIAA, Kerala.
11. The Ministry / SEIAA, Kerala reserves the right to modify and/or stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary.
12. The EC to the aforementioned project is under provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. It does not tantamount to approvals/consent/permissions etc. required to be obtained under any other Act/Rule/regulation. The Project Proponent is under obligation to obtain approvals /clearances under any other Acts/ Regulations or Statutes, as applicable, to the project.
13. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

#### **Copy To**

MoEF Regional Office, Southern Zone, Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wing, II Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034.(through e-mail: rosz.bng-moefcc@gov.in)

The Secretary, Environment Department, Government of Kerala

The Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Thiruvananthapuram

The District Collector, Ernakulam

The Director, Mining & Geology, Thiruvananthapuram

The District Geologist, Ernakulam

The Environmental Engineer, KSPCB, Ernakulam

The Tahsildhar, Muvattupuzha Taluk, Ernakulam

The Secretary, Valakom Grama Panchayat, Ernakulam

Website

## 1. Site Specific Conditions

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The Project Proponent shall carry out quarrying as per the approved Mining Plan and the Specific Conditions mentioned hereafter. The Project Proponent should strictly follow the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules 2015 and amendments thereby
1.2	The EC shall be valid from the date of execution of permit/lease from the Department of Mining and Geology. The copy of the permit / lease order should be provided to the SEIAA before commencing the mining activity.
1.3	The Project Proponent should implement the comprehensive EMP by considering the adjacent project proposals.
1.4	The depth of mining should be limited to 2m below ground level.
1.5	The excavation activity should not involve blasting.
1.6	The excavation activity should not alter the natural drainage pattern of the area.
1.7	The excavated pit should be restored by the Project Proponent for agriculture and other useful purposes.
1.8	Appropriate fencing all around the excavated pit should be made to prevent any mishap.
1.9	Measures should be taken to prevent dust emissions by covering excavated earth during transportation
1.10	Safeguards should be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the water bodies created due to the excavation of earth.
1.11	Workers/laborers should be provided with facilities for drinking water and sanitation.
1.12	A berm should be left from the boundary of adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation.
1.13	A minimum distance of 50m from any civil structure should be kept from the periphery of the project area.
1.14	No water logging should be allowed in the mine pit. Appropriate drainage should be ensured from the project area prior to the commencement of mining.
1.15	The drain should be provided with silt traps and siltation pond and the overflow water should be clarified and drained to the nearest natural drain without any hindrance.
1.16	The drainage system should be cleaned and desilted periodically to facilitate unhindered drainage.

S. No	EC Conditions
1.17	Measures incorporated in the CER should be implemented within 6 months from the date of EC.
1.18	Transportation of mined material should not be done during the peak hours in the forenoon (8.00am to 10.00am) and afternoon (3.30pm to 5.00 pm)
1.19	As per OM no F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 30th September 2020, under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) the Project Proponent should implement the Environment Management Plan (EMP)/CER as directed by SEAC during appraisal, covering the issues to address the environmental problems in the project region, from the beginning of the project, indicating both physical and financial targets year wise. The EMP/CER shall be implemented in consultation with Local Self Govt. Institutions. A copy of the approved EMP/CER shall be made available to the concerned Panchayat for information and implementation support. The indicated cost for implementation of CER activities shall be 2% of the project cost.
1.20	As per the directions contained in the OM F.No.22-34/2018-IA.III dated 16th January 2020 issued by MoEF&CC, in obedience to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Project Proponent shall, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to his mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. The compliance of this direction shall be included in the Half Yearly Compliance Report which will be monitored by SEAC at regular intervals.
1.21	The Project Proponent is directed to install a CCTV camera and take all other essential measures to ensure that mining site is not used by antisocial elements for nefarious antisocial activities which are detrimental for peaceful coexistence in the project region. In case if such complaints are received, the EC given is likely to be cancelled after a police verification.
1.22	The violation of EC condition may lead to cancellation of EC and action under The Environment (Protection) Act 1986

#### Standard EC Conditions for (Mining of minerals)

#### 1. Air Quality Monitoring And Preservation

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centres.
1.2	Applicable labour laws for mining shall be followed. Proper masks and onsite facilities shall be provided to the workers. All safety measures shall be followed while cutting laterite using machines.
1.3	The Project Proponent shall monitor the air quality during operation and submit ambient air quality monitoring details along with the HYCRs.

#### 2. Water Quality Monitoring And Preservation



S. No	EC Conditions
2.1	The effluent discharge (mine waste water, workshop effluent) shall be monitored in terms of the parameters notified under the Water Act, 1974, and other applicable standards as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board or State Pollution Control Board.
2.2	Ground water, excluding mine water, shall not be used for mining operations. Rainwater harvesting shall be implemented for conservation and augmentation of ground water resources.
2.3	Adequate groundwater recharge measures shall be taken up for augmentation of ground water. The project authorities shall meet water requirement of nearby village(s) in case the village wells go dry due to dewatering of mine.
2.4	The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures to ensure the riverine/ riparian ecosystem in and around the mine up to a distance of 5 km. A riverine/riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan should be prepared and implemented in consultation with the irrigation/water resource department in the state government

### 3. Noise And Vibration Monitoring And Prevention

S. No	EC Conditions
3.1	Adequate measures shall be taken for control of noise levels as per Noise Pollution Rules, 2016 in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operation of HEMM, etc shall be provided with personal protective equipments (PPE) like ear plugs/muffs in conformity with the prescribed norms and guidelines in this regard. Adequate awareness programme for users to be conducted. Progress in usage of such accessories to be monitored.

### 4. Mining Plan

S. No	EC Conditions
4.1	Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan (including Mine Closure Plan), suggestions from SEAC, KMMC Rules 2015 and amendments thereby and all other statutory rules and orders.
4.2	The mining activity should not involve blasting.
4.3	Provide 1.5 m x 1.5 m benches for mining depths greater than 2 m to prevent slope failures.
4.4	Maximum depth of removal of laterite building stone should be limited to 1 m above the lithomarge clay layer. The level should be prominently marked before initiating the work.
4.5	Removal of laterite building stone should be restricted to 2m above the ground water table at the site. The decision taken by the expert team of SEAC in this regard, in relation to details provided in the mining plan, after the field inspection shall be final.
4.6	The top soil and overburden shall be stacked in separate demarcated area and shall be used for reclaiming the excavated pit. Proper measures shall be provided to prevent the erosion of the stacked material.

S. No	EC Conditions
4.7	Mine has to be closed as per progressive mine closure plan and final mine closure plan.

## 5. Land Reclamation

S. No	EC Conditions
5.1	Regular monitoring of subsidence movement on the surface over and around the working areas and its impact on natural drainage pattern, water bodies, vegetation, structure, roads and surroundings shall be continued till movement ceases completely. In case of observation of any high rate of subsidence beyond the limit prescribed, appropriate effective mitigation measures shall be taken to avoid loss of life and materials. Cracks should be effectively plugged in with ballast and clay soil/suitable material.
5.2	Appropriate fencing all around the burrowed/excavated pit shall be made to prevent any mishap.
5.3	Proper retaining wall shall be provided for safeguarding the immediately adjacent property, other buildings and civil structures.
5.4	Thorough inspection of the mine lease area for any cracks developed at the surface due to mining activities below ground shall be carried out to prevent inrush of water in the mine.
5.5	A berm shall be left from the boundary of the adjoining field having a width equal to at least half the depth of the proposed excavation or as specified in the mining plan.
5.6	The burrowed/excavated pit shall be restored by the project proponent for useful purpose(s) as specified in the mining plan.

## 6. Public Hearing And Human Health Issues

S. No	EC Conditions
6.1	Adequate illumination shall be ensured in all mine locations (as per DGMS standards) and monitored.
6.2	Safeguards shall be adopted against health risks on account of breeding of vectors in the waterbodies created due to burrowing/excavation of laterite building stone.
6.3	Effective arrangement shall be made to provide and maintain at suitable points conveniently situated, a sufficient supply of drinking water for all the persons employed.

## 7. Corporate Environment Responsibility

S. No	EC Conditions
7.1	The Project Proponent shall implement the EMP and environmental conditions along with CER from the comments of activity. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the IRO Regional Office / SEIAA

S. No	EC Conditions
	Kerala along with the Six Monthly Compliance Report.
7.2	Self environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental audit shall be carried out.

## 8. Miscellaneous

S. No	EC Conditions
8.1	The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safeguards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which, one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days, and in addition, this shall also be displayed on the project proponent's website permanently.
8.2	The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance with the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on a half-yearly basis. The HYCRs shall be uploaded in the PARIVESH Portal to IRO MoEF&CC, Bangalore & SEIAA, Kerala.
8.3	The Environmental Clearance shall be liable to be cancelled in case of violation of any of the EC conditions.
8.4	The project proponent must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.
8.5	The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, if any, commitment made during Public Hearing, if any and also during their presentation to the State Expert Appraisal Committee.
8.6	No further expansion or modifications in the project shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) or SEIAA, Kerala.
8.7	Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
8.8	The SEIAA, Kerala reserves the right to revoke or suspend the Environmental Clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.
8.9	he SEIAA, Kerala reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The project proponent in a time-bound manner shall implement these conditions.
8.10	The Regional Office of the MoEF&CC shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information/monitoring reports.
8.11	The illumination and sound at night at project sites disturb the villages in respect of both human and animal population. Consequent sleeping disorders and stress may affect the health in the villages

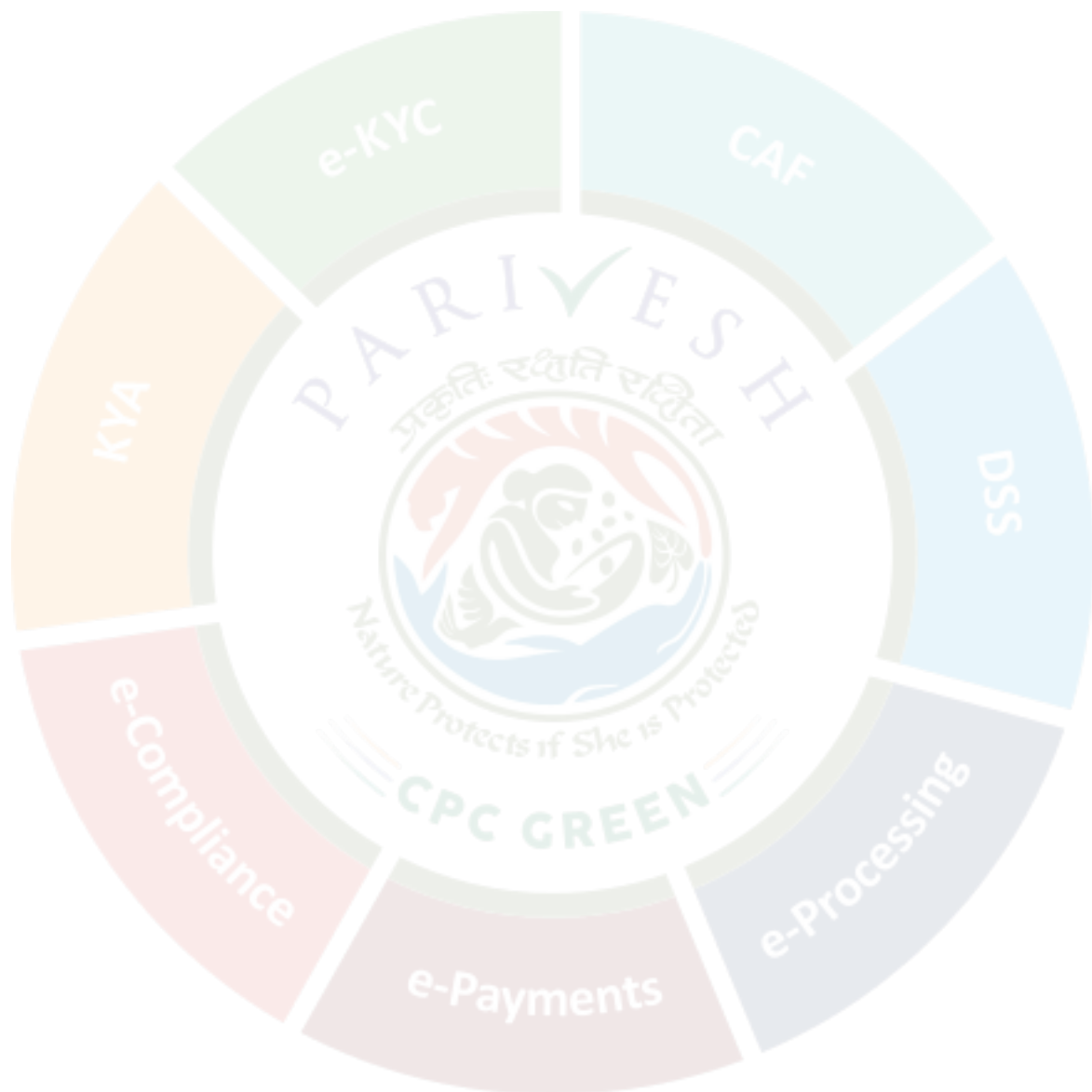
S. No	EC Conditions
	located close to mining operations. Habitations have a right for darkness and minimal noise levels at night. PPs must ensure that the biological clock of the villages is not disturbed; by orienting the floodlights/ masks away from the villagers and keeping the noise levels well within the prescribed limits for day light/night hours.
8.12	Any appeal against this Environmental Clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

## 9. Statutory Compliance

S. No	EC Conditions
9.1	The Environmental Clearance shall be subject to orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Courts, NGT and any other Court of Law, from time to time, and as applicable to the project.
9.2	The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.
9.3	The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
9.4	The project proponent shall prepare a Site-Specific Conservation Plan & Wildlife Management Plan and approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. The recommendations of the approved Site-Specific Conservation Plan / Wildlife Management Plan shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department. The implementation report shall be furnished along with the six-monthly compliance report (in case of the presence of schedule-I species in the study area).
9.5	The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish / Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/ Committee. A copy of the same shall be included with HYCRs.
9.6	The project proponent shall obtain the necessary permission from the Central / State Ground Water Authority, if the project intersects ground water table.
9.7	Solid/hazardous waste generated in the mines needs to addressed in accordance to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/Hazardous & Other Waste Management Rules, 2016.
9.8	Permission of power supply to be taken from the concerned authority for meeting power demand of the project site.
9.9	The maximum production or peak production at any given time shall not exceed the limit as prescribed in the approved mining plan/scheme of mining.
9.10	Project Proponent should obtain all necessary statutory clearances for mining.
9.11	If EC period is more than 6 months, Half Yearly Compliance Report (HYCR) shall be uploaded in the PARIVESH Portal and also submitted to SEIAA, Kerala via email.



S. No	EC Conditions
9.12	The minimum distance norm from the boundary/periphery of other properties buildings/civil structures as prescribed in KMMC Rules and other statutory rules and orders shall be followed.



### **I. Project Details**

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details
1.	Name & Address of the Project Proponent	Sri. Benny C Cherian, Nellangal, Valakam, Ernakulam
2.	Sy. No.	227/1pt, 227/2pt
3.	Village	Valakam
4.	Taluk	Muvattupuzha
5.	District	Ernakulam
6.	Extent	0.7243 Ha
7.	Project Cost	Rs. 15,00,000/-
8.	Mineable Reserve	The Mining and Geology Department should reassess the mineable quantity by restricting the mine depth to 2m BGL
9.	Validity of EC	1 (One) year, from the date of issuance of mine permit, from the Mining and Geology Department

### **II. EMP Details**

Sl No.	Items	Capital Cost (Rs)
1.	Noise Pollution Control	50,000
2.	Water Pollution Control	50,000
3.	Green Belt Development Including cost of afforestation in Buffer Zone	75,000
4.	Solid Waste Management & Domestic Effluent management	30,000
5.	Reclamation / rehabilitation of mined out area	1,40,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,45,000/-</b>

### **III. Comprehensive EMP**

Sl No.	Description	OE Removal project of Sri. Kuriakose
1.	Water Sprinkling on Haulage Road for Dust Suppression	45,000
2.	Plantation (10 Plant Proposed)	6,000
3.	Post Plantation Care	5,000
4.	Tarpaulin (Maintenance Cost)	2,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>58,000</b>

#### IV. CER Details

Activity	Cost (Rs.)
Providing CCTV to Valakam Grama Panchayath for illegal dumping of waste. Provide the following Facilities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 Nos of 4MP IP Fixed Lens 2.8 MM 30Mtr IR Dome Per Rate – 4400/-</li><li>• 2 Nos of 4MP IP Fixed Lens 4 MM 30Mtr IR Bullet Per Rate – 4600/-</li><li>• 20 CH NVR with 2HDD</li><li>• Hard Disk</li></ul>	75,000/-

