

**MINUTES OF THE 145<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE STATE LEVEL  
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA)  
KERALA, HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024.**

**Present:**

- 1. Dr H Nagesh Prabhu IFS (Retd), Chairman, SEIAA, Kerala**
- 2. Sri. K Krishna Panicker, Member, SEIAA**
- 3. Dr Rathan U. Kelkar IAS, Member Secretary, SEIAA**

The 145<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SEIAA, Kerala was held online on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The meeting started at 10.00 A.M. Dr. H. Nagesh Prabhu, Chairman, SEIAA Kerala chaired the meeting, Dr Rathan U. Kelkar IAS, Member Secretary, SEIAA, and Sri. K. Krishna Panicker, Expert Member, SEIAA attended the meeting. The Authority considered the agenda for the 145<sup>th</sup> meeting and took the following decision:

**Item No: 145.01**      **EC granted to Sri. Vinu Joseph, Managing Director, M/s Granitic Mines India Pvt. Ltd. by DEIAA, Kottayam - Hon'ble High Court Kerala Judgment in WP(C) No. 4798 of 2023 dated 05.07.2023**

**(File No: 1775/EC3/2023/SEIAA)**

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**Environmental Clearance for the expansion of Granite Quarry Project of Sri. Vinu Joseph, Managing Director, M/s Granitic Mines India Pvt. Ltd. at Kondoor Village, Meenachil Taluk, Kottayam – EC granted by DEIAA, Kottayam – Judgements in WP(C) No. 416 of 2024 (B) dated 09.01.2024, 22.01.2024 & 12.02.2024**

**(SIA/KL/MIN/438142/2023; 2432/EC4/2024/SEIAA)**

Sri. Vinu Joseph, Managing Director, M/s Granitic Mines Pvt. Ltd. submitted a request dated 19.07.2023 to re-consider the EC issued from DEIAA (EC No: Q 15/2018 dated 06.07.2018) along with the copy of the Judgment dated 05.07.2023 in WP(C) No. 4798 of 2023.

By Judgment dated 05.07.2023 in WP(C) 4798 of 2023 the Hon'ble High Court directed the SEIAA to consider whether erstwhile DEIAA has already considered the feasibility of mining in the area coming under Sy. No. 259/8 pt. If the SEIAA finds that such an analysis is made and only reason for restricting the area was the nature of the land which was then shown as plantation there will be a direction to the SEIAA to reconsider the issue based on the available materials from the DEIAA's Consideration with regard to Sy. No. 259/8 pt. and if necessary revise the EC including the said extent also. It was also directed SEIAA to consider whether mining can be permitted for the quantity shown in Exhibit P2 Mining Plan and if so, whether any extension of the period is required, within a period of 2 months from the date of Judgment.

After the judgement dated 05.07.2023 in WP (C) 4798/2023, the petitioner had submitted an application for expansion of EC issued by the DEIAA on 26.07.2023 by including the Sy No 259/8pt, which was marked as buffer area in the EC. As per OM dated 28.04.2023 issued by MoEF&CC in compliance of order dated 07.12.2022 of NGT in O.A. 142 of 2022, all ECs issued by DEIAAs between 12.01.2016 to 13.09.2018 shall be reappraised by the concerned SEAC and fresh ECs shall be issued by SEIAA as per the recommendation of SEAC.

Pursuant to the Judgment dated 05.07.2023, the erstwhile DEIAA/DEAC forwarded the records available with them and the SEIAA on evaluation of the records found that DEIAA/DEAC has not assessed the feasibility of mining in the project area in Sy No. 259/8pt considering all the environmental, hydrological, geographical and biological aspects and vulnerability of the area based on Hazard Susceptibility.

Subsequently as per the directions of the Hon'ble Court the Government Pleader appearing on behalf of the RDO Kottayam made available various records pertaining to the subject matter. Followed by this the Hon'ble High Court directed SEIAA to verify whether erstwhile DEIAA had considered the feasibility of mining in the area from the documents made available by the Government Pleader to the Court.

In furtherance to the above the SEAC examined the documents and furnished report to SEIAA on 20.06.2024. In the report it has been stated by SEAC that "from the decision of DEAC and DEIAA, it is clear that the appraisal was done for the entire area of 3.29Ha and EC was given for 1.82Ha after excluding the land area categorized as plantation".

In view of the above and in compliance with the Judgment of the Hon'ble High Court in WP(C) No. 4798 of 2023 dated 05.07.2023 the Authority decides as follows:

1. The Environmental Clearance issued by DEIAA shall be revised for the entire area of 3.29 Ha, with prospective effect for an area in Sy No. 259/8pt, in compliance with the Judgement of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in WP(C) No. 4798 of 2023 dated 05.07.2023, subject to the conditions stipulated therein.
2. The EC shall be subject to the result WP(C) 416 of 2024 filed by the Project Proponent pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala and the petitioner complying with the production of approval from the District Level Crisis Management Committee for mining constituted vide GO (Rt) No. 542/14/ID dated 26.05.2014 as the project area falls in medium Hazard Zone as per the Hazard Susceptibility map published by KSDMA.
3. In order to comply with the direction (iii) of the Judgement dated 05.07.2023, the project life and the balance quantity to be mined as per the Exhibit P2 mining plan shall be assessed by SEAC on priority after the Project Proponent furnishes the relevant details for the quantity so far mined out and the balance quantity that can be mined, from the Mining and Geology Department. SEAC shall have the liberty to recommend accordingly safeguarding the environmental interest in the project region.

The Authority hereby complied with the directions in WP(C) No. 4798 of 2023 dated 05.07.2023.

**Sd/-**  
**Dr H. Nagesh Prabhu IFS (Retd)**  
**Chairman, SEIAA**

**Sd/-**  
**Sri K. Krishna Panicker**  
**Expert Member, SEIAA**

**Sd/-**  
**Dr Rathan U. Kelkar IAS**  
**Member Secretary, SEIAA**