

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THIRU. T. MANOJKUMAR ROUGH STONE AND GRAVEL QUARRY

S.F. Nos. 575/1 (P), 2, 576 (P), 577/1 (P) & 581 (P), Extent – 4.85.0 ha,
Munnur Village, Pugalur Taluk, Karur District, Tamil Nadu State

“B1” CATEGORY/ MINOR MINERAL /CLUSTER/ NON-FOREST LAND/ PATTALAND

* **CLUSTER EXTENT = 7.50.0 ha**

* Cluster Calculated as per MoEF & CC Notification – S.O. 2269(E) Dated: 01.07.2016

ToR Obtained vide

Lr.No.SEIAA-TN/F.No.9533/SEAC/ToR-1352/2023 Dated: 10.02.2023

Project Proponent

Thiru.T.MANOJKUMAR,

S/o. Thangaraj,

Door No.59/1/4, Pon Nagar, Andankovil East, Manmangalam Taluk,
Karur District – 639 002.

Environmental Consultant

GEO EXPLORATION AND MINING SOLUTIONS



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Baseline Monitoring Period - March to May 2023

Environmental Lab

EHS 360 LABS PRIVATE LIMITED

(Approved by ISO/IEC 17025:2017)

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JUNE 2023

1. INTRODUCTION

Rough Stone & Gravel is the major requirements for construction industry. This EIA report is prepared by considering Cumulative load of proposed & existing quarries of Munnur Rough Stone & Gravel Quarry Cluster consisting of 1 Proposed and 1 Existing Quarries with total extent of Cluster of 7.50.0 ha in Munnur Village, Pugalur Taluk, Karur District, Tamil Nadu State, cluster area calculated as per MoEF & CC Notification S.O. 2269(E) Dated 1st July 2016

The proponent has obtained necessary statutory clearances from the Department of Geology and Mining, Karur District, Tamil Nadu (Statutory Clearance Documents are enclosed along with Mining plan as Annexure No III). The total Extent of the quarries within the radius of 500m from this proposal is > 5Ha, hence the proposal falls under “B1” Category project as per the EIA notification, 2006 (As amended timely).

Proponent applied for Environmental Clearance to SEIAA, Tamil Nadu and obtained **ToR vide Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9533/SEAC/ToR-1352/2023 Dated: 10.02.2023** for carrying out EIA and EMP studies for the rough stone and Gravel quarry.

To carry out the EIA studies and to prepare EIA and EMP studies the proponent Thiru.T.Manojkumar have engaged a consultant M/s. Geo Exploration and Mining Solutions, Salem, Tamil Nadu. The Baseline Monitoring study has been carried out during summer season (March to May 2023) considering the provisions of MoEF & CC Office Memorandum Dated: 29.08.2017 and MoEF & CC Notification S.O. 996 (E) Dated: 10.04.2015.

“Draft EIA report prepared on the basis of ToR Issued for carrying out public hearing for the grant of Environmental Clearance from SEIAA, Tamil Nadu”

1.1 DETAILS OF PROJECT PROPONENT

| PROPOSAL | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Name of the Proponent/Company | Thiru. T. Manojkumar |
| Address | S/o. Thangaraj, Door No.59/1/4, Pon Nagar, Andankovil East, Manmangalam Taluk, Karur District – 639 002 |
| Mobile | +91 99942 06222 & 98423 40250 |
| Status | Proprietor |

The project proponent is an individual.

1.2 QUARRY DETAILS WITHIN 500 M RADIUS

| PROPOSED QUARRY | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|------------------|---|
| Code | Name of the Owner | S.F. Nos | Extent | Status |
| P1 | Thiru. T. Manojkumar S/o. Thangaraj, Door No.59/1/4, Pon Nagar, Andankovil East, Manmangalam Taluk, Karur District – 639 002, | 575/1 (P), 2, 576 (P), 577/1 (P) & 581 (P), | 4.85.0 ha | TOR Obtained: Lr.No. SEIAA- TN/F.No.9533/SEAC/ToR- 1352/2023 Dated: 10.02.2023 |
| TOTAL | | | 4.85.0 ha | |
| EXISTING QUARRY | | | | |
| Code | Name of the Owner | S.F. No | Extent | Status |
| E1 | Tvl. Balavinayaga Blue Metals, Saminathapuram, S.F. No.571, Munnur Post, Aravakurichi Taluk, Karur Taluk, Karur District | 568 (P), 672 (P) | 2.65.0 ha | 23.10.2017 To 22.10.2022 |
| TOTAL | | | 2.65.0ha | |
| EXPIRED & ABANDONES QUARRY | | | | |
| Code | Name of the Owner | S.F. No | Extent | Status |
| Ex&A-1 | Tvl. Balavinayaga Blue Metals, Saminathapuram, S.F. No.571, Munnur Post, Aravakurichi Taluk, Karur Taluk, Karur District | 571 (P), 669, 670(P), 671 | 4.86.0 | 20.02.2015 To 19.02.2020 |
| TOTAL CLUSTER EXTENT | | | 7.50.0 ha | |

TABLE 1.3 SALIENT FEATURES OF THE PROPOSAL

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|
| Name of the Quarry | Thiru. T. Manojkumar Rough Stone & Gravel Quarry Project | | |
| Toposheet No | 58 - F/13 | | |
| Latitude between | 10°58'41.57"N to 10°58'51.96"N | | |
| Longitude between | 77°53'49.66"E to 77°53'58.06"E | | |
| Highest Elevation | 177m AMSL | | |
| Proposed Depth of Mining | 42m (10 Years) & 22m (1 st five year) Bgl. | | |
| Lease Period | 10 Years | | |
| Mining Plan Period | 5 Years | | |
| Geological Resources | Rough Stone in m ³ | Gravel m ³ | |
| | 19,37,320m ³ | 96,866m ³ | |
| Mineable Reserves | Rough Stone in m ³ | Gravel m ³ | |
| | 10,66,200m ³ | 82,764m ³ | |
| Proposed Quantity of Production for ten years | Rough Stone in m ³ | Gravel m ³ | |
| | 10,66,200m ³ | 82,764m ³ | |
| Proposed Quantity of Production 1 st five years | 5,33,900m ³ | | |
| Proposed Quantity of Production Remaining five years | 5,32,300m ³ | | |
| Ultimate Pit Dimension | First Five-year Proposed Pit -244m (L) * 172 m (W) * 22m (D) Ultimate Pit Dimension- 244m (L) * 172 m (W) * 42m (D) | | |
| Water Level in the surrounds area | The Water table is found at a depth of 73m in summer and at 68m in rainy seasons. | | |
| Method of Mining | Opencast Mechanized Mining Method involving drilling and blasting | | |
| Topography | The lease applied area is exhibits plain terrain. The area has gentle sloping towards Southern side. The altitude of the area is 177m (max) above Mean Sea level. The area is covered by 2m thickness of Gravel formation. Massive Charnockite is found after 2m (Gravel) which is clearly inferred from the nearby existing quarry pits. | | |
| Machinery proposed | Jack Hammer | 13 Nos | |
| | Compressor | 3 Nos | |
| | Excavator with Bucket and Rock Breaker | 3 No | |
| | Tippers | 7 Nos | |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------|
| Blasting Method | Controlled Blasting Method by shot hole drilling and small dia of 25mm slurry explosive are proposed to be used for shattering and heaving effect for removal and winning of Rough Stone. No deep hole drilling is proposed. | |
| Proposed Manpower Deployment | 60 Nos | |
| Project Cost | Rs.1,02,79,000/- | |
| CER Cost @ 2% of Project Cost | Rs.5,00,000/- | |
| Nearest water Bodies | Noyyal River | 7.0km SW |
| Greenbelt Development Plan | Proposed to plant 2400 trees in Safety Zone, approach road and Village roads | |
| Proposed Water Requirement | 3.0 KLD | |
| Nearest Habitation | 350m -North East | |

1.3 STATUTORY DETAILS

- The proponent applied for Rough Stone and Gravel Quarry Lease Dated: 06.01.2022
- Precise Area Communication Letter was issued by the District Collector, Karur Rc.No. 15/Mines/2022 Dated: 10.03.2022
- The Mining Plan was prepared by Recognized Qualified Person and approved by Deputy Director, Geology and Mining, Karur District, vide Rc.No. 15/Mines/2022 Dated: 08.04.2022
- The proposed project falls under “B1” Category as per Order Dated: 04.09.2018 & 13.09.2018 passed by Hon'ble National Green tribunal, New Delhi in O.A. No. 173 of 2018 & O.A. No, 186 of 2016 and MoEF & CC Office Memorandum F. No. L-11011/175/2018-IA-II (M) Dated: 12.12.2018
- Proponent applied for ToR for Environmental Clearance vides online Proposal No. SIA/TN/MIN/72618/2022, Dated: 24.02.2022
- The proposal was placed in 346th SEAC meeting held on 12.01.2023 and the committee recommended for issue of ToR.
- The proposal was considered in 591st SEIAA meeting held on 10.02.2023 and issued ToR vide Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9533/SEAC/ToR-1352/2023 Dated: 10.02.2023

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project is site specific and there is no additional area required for this project. There is no effluent generation/discharge from the proposed quarries. Rough Stone is proposed to be excavated by opencast mechanized method involving splitting of rock mass of considerable volume from the parent rock mass by jackhammer drilling and blasting, hydraulic excavators are used for loading the Rough Stone from pithead to the needy crushers and rock breakers to avoid secondary blasting.

2.1 SITE CONNECTIVITY TO THE PROJECT AREA

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Nearest Roadway | NH-81- Coimbatore – Tiruchy – 2.0km-South SH-84 - Erode – Karur – 8.0km-North East |
| Nearest Village | Munnur – 2.0Km - NE |
| Nearest Town | K.Paramathi – 3.0km – SE |
| Nearest Railway | Maravapalayam – 10.0km- NE |
| Nearest Airport | Trichy – 89.0Km – SE |
| Seaport | Kochin Port-205 km – SW |
| Interstate Boundary | Tamilnadu-Karnataka -102km-NW Tamilnadu-Kerala -117km-W |

2.2 LAND USE PATTERN OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

| Description | Present area in (ha) | Area required during the first five years of the plan period (ha) | Area at the end of this quarrying period (ha) |
|--------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| Quarrying Pit | Nil | 4.23.0 | 4.23.0 |
| Infrastructure | Nil | 0.01.0 | 0.01.0 |
| Roads | Nil | 0.02.0 | 0.02.0 |
| Green Belt | Nil | 0.15.0 | 0.30.0 |
| Unutilized Area | 4.85.0 | 0.44.0 | 0.29.0 |
| Grand Total | 4.85.0 | 4.85.0 | 4.85.0 |

2.3 OPERATIONAL DETAILS OF LEASE APPLIED AREA

| PARTICULARS | DETAILS | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| | Rough Stone (5Year Plan period) | Gravel (3 Years Plan period) |
| Geological Resources in m ³ | 7,89,000 | 32,788 |
| Mineable Reserves in m ³ | 3,56,775 | 25,912 |
| Yearwise reserves in m ³ | 1,81,195 | 25,912 |
| Mining Plan Period | 5 Years | |
| Number of Working Days | 300 Days | |
| Production per day in m ³ | 121 | 29 |
| No of Lorry loads (6m ³ per load) | 20 | 5 |
| Total Depth of Mining | 42m (2m Gravel + 40m Rough Stone) | |

FIGURE – 1: GOOGLE IMAGE SHOWING PROJECT AREA



FIGURE – 2: GOOGLE IMAGE SHOWING CLUSTER (500 m QUARRIES)

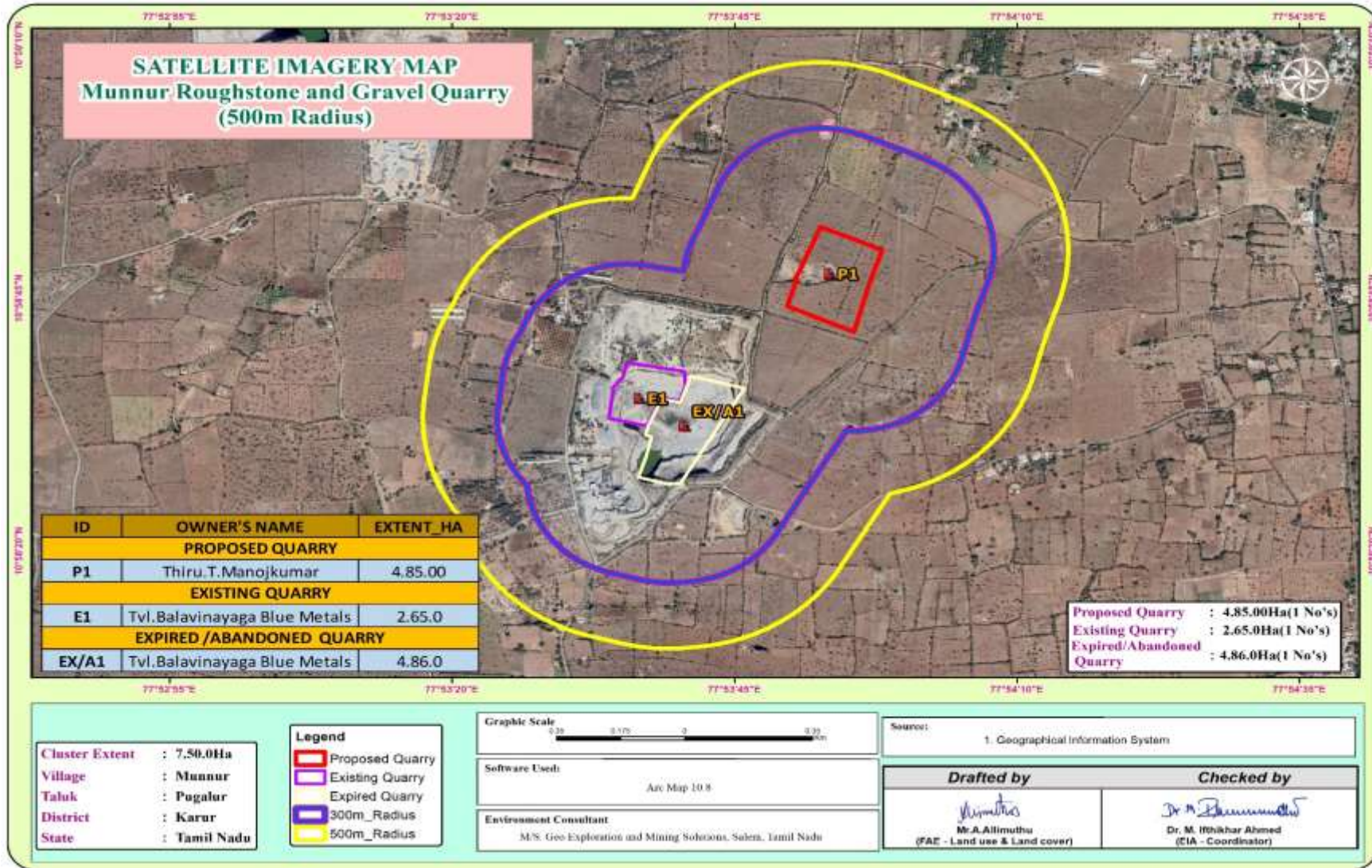


FIGURE – 4: QUARRY LEASE PLAN & SURFACE PLAN



2.4 METHOD OF MINING

Opencast Mechanized Mining Method is being proposed by formation of 5.0 meter height bench with a bench width not less than the bench height. However, as far as the quarrying of Rough Stone is concerned, observance of the provisions of Regulation 106 (2) (b) as above is seldom possible due to various inherent petro genetic factors coupled with mining difficulties. Hence it is proposed to obtain relaxation to the provisions of the above regulation from the Director of Mines Safety for which necessary provision is available with the Regulation 106 (2) (b) of MMR-1961, under Mine Act – 1952.

The top layer of Topsoil will be Excavate directly by Hydraulic Excavators and preserved all along the safety barrier to facilitate greenbelt development during Mine Closure Stage. The Rough Stone is a batholith formation and the splitting of rock mass of considerable volume from the parent rock mass will be carried out by deploying jackhammer drilling and Slurry Explosives will be used for blasting. Hydraulic Excavators attached with Rock Breakers unit will be deployed for breaking large boulders to required fragmented sizes to avoid secondary blasting and hydraulic excavators attached with bucket unit will be deployed for loading the Rough Stone into the tippers and then the stone is transported from pithead to the nearby crushers.

2.5 PROPOSED MACHINERY DEPLOYMENT

| S.NO. | TYPE | NOS | SIZE/CAPACITY | MOTIVE POWER |
|-------|--------------------------------------|-----|---------------|----------------|
| 1 | Jack hammers | 13 | 1.2m to 2.0m | Compressed air |
| 2 | Compressor | 3 | 400psi | Diesel Drive |
| 3 | Excavator with Bucket / Rock Breaker | 3 | 300 HP | Diesel Drive |
| 4 | Tippers / Dumpers | 7 | 20 Tonnes | Diesel Drive |

2.6 CONCEPTUAL MINING PLAN/ FINAL MINE CLOSURE PLAN

The ultimate pit size is designed based on certain practical parameters such as economical depth of mining, safety zones, permissible area, etc.,

2.7 ULTIMATE PIT DIMENSION

| Pit | Length (Max) (m) | Width (Max) (m) | Depth (Max) |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| First Five-year Proposed Pit | 244 | 172 | 22m bgl |
| Ultimate Pit Dimension | 244 | 172 | 42m bgl |

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The baseline status of the project environment is described section wise for better understanding of the broad-spectrum conditions. The baseline environment quality represents the background environmental scenario of various environmental components such as Land, Water, Air, Noise, Biological and Socio-economic status of the study area. Field monitoring studies to evaluate the base line status of the project site were carried out covering March – May 2023 as per CPCB & MoEF & CC guidelines.

3.1 ENVIRONMENT MONITORING ATTRIBUTES

| Attribute | Parameters | Frequency of Monitoring | No. of Locations | Protocol |
|------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Land-use Land cover | Land-use Pattern within 10 km radius of the study area | Data's from census handbook 2011 and from the satellite imagery | Study Area | Satellite Imagery Primary Survey |
| *Soil | Physio-Chemical Characteristics | Once during the study period | 6 (1 core & 5 buffer zone) | IS 2720 Agriculture Handbook - Indian Council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi |
| *Water Quality | Physical, Chemical and Bacteriological Parameters | Once during the study period | 6 (1 surface water & 5 ground water) | IS 10500& CPCB Standards |
| Meteorology | Wind Speed Wind Direction Temperature Cloud cover Dry bulb temperature Rainfall | 1 Hourly Continuous Mechanical/Automatic Weather Station | 1 | Site specific primary data& Secondary Data from IMD Station |
| *Ambient Air Quality | PM ₁₀ PM _{2.5} SO ₂ NO _x Fugitive Dust | 24 hourly twice a week (March to May 2023) | 8 (1 core & 7 buffer) | IS 5182 Part 1-23 National Ambient Air Quality Standards, CPCB |
| *Noise Levels | Ambient Noise | Hourly observation for 24 Hours per location | 8 (1 core & 7 buffer zone) | IS 9989 As per CPCB Guidelines |
| Ecology | Existing Flora and Fauna | Through field visit during the study period | Study Area | Primary Survey by Quadrante & Transect Study Secondary Data – Forest Working Plan |
| Socio Economic Aspects | Socio-Economic Characteristics, Population Statistics and Existing Infrastructure in the study area | Site Visit & Census Handbook, 2011 | Study Area | Primary Survey, census handbook & need based assessments. |

Source: On-site monitoring/sampling by EHS 360 LABS PRIVATE LIMITED in association with GEMS

3.2 LAND ENVIRONMENT

A visual interpretation technique has been adopted for land use classification based on the keys suggested in the chapter – V of the guidelines issued by NNRMS Bangalore & Level III classification with 1:50,000 scale for the preparation of land use mapping. Land use pattern of the area was studied through LISS III imagery of Bhuvan (ISRO). The 10 km radius map of study area was taken for analysis of Land use cover.

TABLE 3.1: LAND USE / LAND COVER TABLE 10 KM RADIUS

| S.No | Classification | Area_Ha | Area_% |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| BUILT-UP | | | |
| 1 | Builtup Urban | 312.56 | 0.96 |
| 2 | Builtup Rural | 2160.54 | 6.65 |
| 3 | Builtup Mining | 776.08 | 2.39 |
| AGRICULTURAL LAND | | | |
| 4 | Crop Land | 13168.85 | 40.52 |
| 5 | Agricultural Plantation | 86.56 | 0.27 |
| 6 | Fallow Land | 14408.66 | 44.33 |
| FOREST | | | |
| 7 | Forest Plantation | 935.73 | 2.88 |
| BARREN/WASTELAND | | | |
| 8 | Scrub Land | 337.10 | 1.04 |
| 9 | Barren Rocky | 131.39 | 0.40 |
| WATERBODIES | | | |
| 10 | Waterbodies | 183.90 | 0.57 |
| | | 32501.38 | 100 |

Interpretation:

- ∞ Munnur village Rough stone and gravel quarry has proposed Project. It is a patta land.
- ∞ Total project area is 32501.38 ha around 10km radius.
- ∞ The 10 km radius study area mainly comprises of crop land & Agriculture Plantation land accounting of 40.52% & 0.27% of the total study area. The study area also consists of fallow land of 44.33%.
- ∞ The buffer zone studied has no ecological sensitive area (National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve/ etc.).
- ∞ Water Bodies such as ponds/ lakes comprises of 0.57% of the total buffer area. The two seasonal rivers such as Noyyal river at 5 Km in NW direction, Canal 1km in NE and Aathupalayam dam at 9.5km in NW direction of the total study area.
- ∞ The Scrub land accounts of 1.04%. As per the primary survey, it was observed the scrub land is mainly occupied by the stony waste and left-over domestic waste generated by the nearby areas.
- ∞ 2.39% of the total study area is occupied by mines. The area occupied by Mainly Roughstone and gravel of the total buffer area. As also observed within the primary survey, the 10 km buffer area is also occupied by the medium scaled granite and small Brick kiln industries also located in the study area.

∞ 7% of the area is covered under the Builtup Land. The nearest village within the 3 km radius from the project site boundary is observed to be villages Munnur, Kuppampalayam, K. Paramathi etc.,

3.3 SOIL ENVIRONMENT

The samples were analysed as per the standard methods prescribed in “Soil Chemical Analysis (M.L. Jackson, 1967) & Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India”. The important properties analysed for soil are bulk density, porosity, infiltration rate, pH and Organic matter, Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium

Interpretation & Conclusion

Physical Characteristics –

The physical properties of the soil samples were examined for texture, bulk density, porosity and water holding capacity. The soil texture found in the study area is Clay Loam Soil between 32.1-38.7% and Bulk Density of Soils in the study area varied between 0.99 – 1.23 g/cm³. The Water Holding Capacity 45.5-48.0% and Porosity of the soil samples is found to be medium i.e. ranging from 41.2 – 48.8%.

Chemical Characteristics –

- The nature of soil is slightly alkaline to strongly alkaline with pH range 7.69 to 8.55
- The available Nitrogen content range between 412.5 to 555 kg/ha
- The available Phosphorus content range between 1.00 to 2.5 kg/ha
- The available Potassium range between 15.5 to 62.5 mg/kg

3.4 WATER ENVIRONMENT

The study area is studded with few tanks that serve as the source of drinking water and also their surplus feeds adjoining tanks. The rainfall over the area is moderate, the rainwater storage in open wells and trenches are in practice over the area and the stored water acts as source of freshwater for couple of months after rainy season.

Surface Water

Ph:

The pH 7.89 while turbidity found within the standards (Optimal pH range for sustainable aquatic life is 6.5 to 8.5 pH).

Total Dissolved Solids:

Total Dissolved Solid 681 mg/l, the TDS mainly composed of carbonates, bicarbonates, Chlorides, phosphates and nitrates of calcium, magnesium, sodium and other organic matter.

Other parameters:

Chloride content is 120mg/l. Nitrates 20.2 mg/l, while sulphate 98.3 mg/l.

Ground Water

The pH of the water samples collected ranged from 7.01 to 8.02 and within the acceptable limit of 6.5 to 8.5. PH, Sulphates and Chlorides of water samples from all the

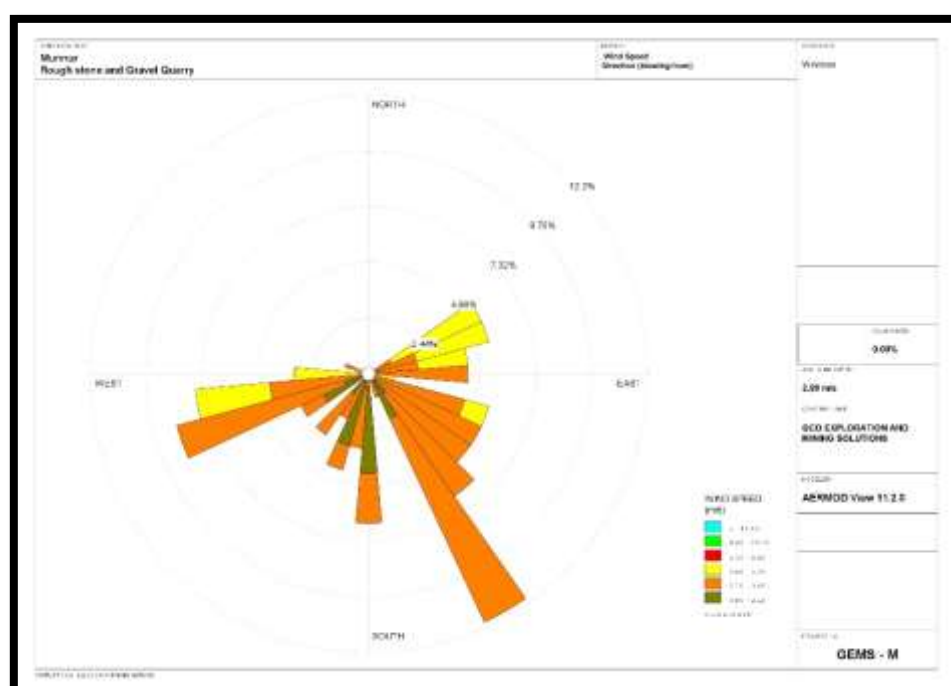
sources are within the limits as per the Standard. On Turbidity, the water samples meet the requirement. The Total Dissolved Solids were found in the range of 520- 700 mg/l in all samples. The Total hardness varied between 146.52– 186.39 mg/l for all samples.

On Microbiological parameters, the water samples from all the locations meet the requirement. The parameters thus analysed were compared with IS 10500:2012 and are well within the prescribed limits.

3.5 AIR ENVIRONMENT

The baseline studies on air environment include identification of specific air pollution parameters and their existing levels in ambient air. The ambient air quality with respect to the study zone of 10 km radius around the proposed quarry forms the baseline information.

FIGURE – 6: WIND ROSE DIAGRAM



3.6 SUMMARY OF AMBIENT AIR QUALITY

As per monitoring data, PM₁₀ ranges from 44.2 µg/m³ to 47 µg/m³, PM_{2.5} data ranges from 23.6 µg/m³ to 25.5 µg/m³, SO₂ ranges from 6.3 µg/m³ to 7.3 µg/m³ and NO₂ data ranges from 20.4 µg/m³ to 22.9 µg/m³. The concentration levels of the above criteria pollutants were observed to be well within the limits of NAAQS prescribed by CPCB.

3.7 NOISE ENVIRONMENT

Ambient noise levels were measured at 8 (Eight) locations around the proposed project area. Noise levels recorded in core zone during day time were from 43.1 dB (A) Leq and during night time were is 42.5dB (A) Leq. Noise levels recorded in buffer zone during day time were from 36.1 to 41.7 dB (A) Leq and during night time were from 35.4 to 36.4 dB (A) Leq.

Thus, the noise level for Industrial and Residential area meets the requirements of CPCB.

3.8 ECOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

The study involved in the collection of primary data by conducting a survey in the field, examination of floral and faunal records in previously published reports and records. Analysis of the information is the view of the possible alteration in the environment of the project site. For the survey of fauna, both direct and indirect observation methods were used.

There is no schedule I species of animals observed within study area as per Wildlife Protection Act 1972 as well as no species is in vulnerable, endangered or threatened category as per IUCN. There is no endangered red list species found in the study area. Hence this small operation over short period of time will not have any significant impact on the surrounding flora and fauna.

3.9 SOCIO ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

It includes demographic structure of the area, provision of basic amenities viz., housing, education, health and medical services, occupation, water supply, sanitation, communication, transportation, prevailing diseases pattern as well as feature like temples, historical monuments etc., at the baseline level. This will help in visualizing and predicting the possible impact depending upon the nature and magnitude of the project.

The socio-economic study of surveyed villages gives a clear picture of its population, average household size, literacy rate and sex ratio etc. It is also found that a part of population is suffering from lack of permanent job to run their day-to-day life. Their expectation is to earn some income for their sustainability on a long-term basis.

The proposed project will aim to provide preferential 18 persons to the local people there by improving the indirect employment opportunity for 40 persons and in turn the social standards will improve.

4. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

In order to maintain the environmental commensuration with the mining operation, it is essential to undertake studies on the existing environmental scenario and assess the impact on different environmental components. This would help in formulating suitable management plans sustainable resource extraction.

4.1 LAND ENVIRONMENT:

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

- Permanent or temporary change on land use and land cover.
- Change in Topography: Topography of the ML area will change at the end of the life of the mine.

- Movement of heavy vehicles sometimes cause problems to agricultural land, human habitations due to dust, noise and it also causes traffic hazards.
- Due to degradation of land by pitting the aesthetic environment of the core zone may be affected.
- Earthworks during the rainy season increase the potential for soil erosion and sediment laden water entering the water ways.
- If no due care is taken wash off from the exposed working area may choke the water course & can also causes the siltation of water course

MITIGATION MEASURES

- The mining activity will be gradual confined in blocks and excavation will be undertaken progressively along with other mitigative measures like phase wise development of greenbelt etc.,
- Construction of garland drains all around the quarry pits and construction of check dam at strategic location in lower elevations to prevent erosion due to surface runoff during rainfall and also to collect the storm water for various uses within the proposed area
- Green belt development along the boundary within safety zone. The small quantity of water stored in the mined-out pit will be used for greenbelt
- Thick plantation will be carried out on unutilized area, top benches of mined out pits, on safety barrier, etc.,
- At conceptual stage, the land use pattern of the quarry will be changed into Greenbelt area and temporary reservoir
- In terms of aesthetics, natural vegetation surrounding the quarry will be retained (such as in a buffer area i.e., 7.5 m safety barrier and other safety provided) so as to help minimise dust emissions.
- Proper fencing will be carried out at the conceptual stage, Security will be posted round the clock, to prevent inherent entry of the public and cattle

4.2 SOIL ENVIRONMENT

IMPACT ON SOIL ENVIRONMENT

Erosion and Sedimentation (Removal of protective vegetation cover; Exposure of underlying soil horizons that may be less pervious, or more erodible than the surface layers; Reduced capacity of soils to absorb rainfall; Increased energy in storm-water runoff due to concentration and velocity; and Exposure of subsurface materials which are unsuitable for vegetation establishment).

MITIGATION MEASURES FOR SOIL CONSERVATION

- Run-off diversion – Garland drains will be constructed all around the project boundary to prevent surface flows from entering the quarry works areas. And will be discharged into vegetated natural drainage lines, or as distributed flow across an area stabilised against erosion.

- Sedimentation ponds - Run-off from working areas will be routed towards sedimentation ponds. These trap sediment and reduce suspended sediment loads before runoff is discharged from the quarry site. Sedimentation ponds should be designed based on runoff, retention times, and soil characteristics. There may be a need to provide a series of sedimentation ponds to achieve the desired outcome.
- Retain vegetation – Retain existing or re-plant the vegetation at the site wherever possible.
- Monitoring and maintenance – Weekly monitoring and daily maintenance of erosion control systems so that they perform as specified specially during rainy season

4.2 WATER ENVIRONMENT

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

- The major sources of water pollution normally associated due to mining and allied operations are:
 - Generation of waste water from vehicle washing.
 - Washouts from surface exposure or working areas
 - Domestic sewage
 - Disturbance to drainage course in the project area
 - Mine Pit water discharge
- Increase in sediment load during monsoon in downstream of lease area
- This being a mining project, there will be no process effluent. Waste from washing of machinery may result in discharge of Oil & grease, suspended solids.
- The sewage from soak pit may percolate to the ground water table and contaminate it.
- Surface drainage may be affected due to Mining
- Abstraction of water may lead to depletion of water table

MITIGATION MEASURES

- Garland drain, settling tank will be constructed along the project area. The Garland drain will be connected to settling tank and sediments will be trapped in the settling traps and only clear water will be discharged out to the natural drainage
- Rainwater will be collected in sump in the mining pits and will be allowed to store and pumped out to surface setting tank of 15 m x 10m x 3m to remove suspended solids if any. This collected water will be judiciously used for dust suppression and such sites where dust likely to be generated and for developing green belt. The proponent will collect and judiciously utilize the rainwater as part of rainwater harvesting system.
- Providing benches with inner slopes and through a system of drains and channels, allowing rain water to descent into surrounding drains, so as to minimize the effects of erosion & water logging arising out of uncontrolled descent of water
- Reuse the water collected during storm for dust suppression and greenbelt development within the mines
- Installing interceptor traps/oil separators to remove oils and greases. Water from the tipper wash-down facility and machinery maintenance yard will pass through interceptor traps/oil separators prior to its reuse;

- Using flocculating or coagulating agents to assist in the settling of suspended solids during monsoon seasons;
- Periodic (every 6 month once) analysis of quarry pit water and ground water quality in nearby villages.
- Domestic sewage from site office & urinals/latrines provided in ML is discharged in septic tank followed by soak pits.
- Waste water discharge from mine will be treated in settling tanks before using for dust suppression and tree plantation purposes.
- De-silting will be carried out before and immediately after the monsoon season.
- Regular monitoring (every 6 month once) and analysing the quality of water in open well, bore wells and surface water.

4.3 AIR ENVIRONMENT

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

- During mining, at various stages activities such as excavation, drilling, blasting, and transportation of materials, particular matter (PM), gases such as Sulphur dioxide, oxides of Nitrogen from vehicular exhaust are the main air pollutants.
- Emissions of noxious gases due to incomplete detonation of explosive may sometimes pollute the air.
- The fugitive dust released from the mining operations may cause effect on the mine workers who are directly exposed to the fugitive dust.
- Simultaneously, the air-borne dust may travel to longer distances and settle in the villages located near the mine lease area.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Drilling – To control dust at source, wet drilling will be practiced. Where there is a scarcity of water, suitably designed dust extractor will be provided for dry drilling along with dust hood at the mouth of the drill-hole collar.

Advantages of Wet Drilling: -

- In this system dust gets suppressed close to its formation. Dust suppression become very effective and the work environment will be improved from the point of occupational comfort and health.
- Due to dust free atmosphere, the life of engine, compressor etc., will be increased.
- The life of drill bit will be increased.
- The rate of penetration of drill will be increased.
- Due to the dust free atmosphere visibility will be improved resulting in safer working conditions.

Blasting

- Establish time of blasting to suit the local conditions and water sprinkling on blasting face
- Avoid blasting i.e., when temperature inversion is likely to occur and strong wind blows towards residential areas

- Controlled blasting include Adoption of suitable explosive charge and short delay detonators, adequate stemming of holes at collar zone and restricting blasting to a particular time of the day i.e. at the time lunch hours, controlled charge per hole as well as charge per round of hole
- Before loading of material water will be sprayed on blasted material
- Dust mask will be provided to the workers and their use will be strictly monitored

Haul Road & Transportation –

- Water will be sprinkled on haul roads twice a day to avoid dust generation during transportation
- Transportation of material will be carried out during day time and material will be covered with tarpaulin
- The speed of tippers plying on the haul road will be limited below 20 km/hr to avoid generation of dust.
- Water sprinkling on haul roads & loading points will be carried out twice a day
- Main source of gaseous pollution will be from vehicle used for transportation of mineral; therefore, weekly maintenance of machines improves combustion process & makes reduction in the pollution.
- The un-metalled haul roads will be compacted weekly before being put into use.
- Over loading of tippers will be avoided to prevent spillage.
- It will be ensured that all transportation vehicles carry a valid PUC certificate
- Grading of haul roads and service roads to clear accumulation of loose materials

Green Belt –

- Planting of trees all along main mine haul roads and regular grading of haul roads will be practiced to prevent the generation of dust due to movement of dumpers/trucks
- Green belt of adequate width will be developed around the project areas

Occupational Health –

- Dust mask will be provided to the workers and their use will be strictly monitored
- Annual medical check-ups, trainings and campaigns will be arranged to ensure awareness about importance of wearing dust masks among all mine workers & tipper drivers
- Ambient Air Quality Monitoring will be conducted six month once to assess effectiveness of mitigation measures proposed

4.4 NOISE ENVIRONMENT

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

Noise pollution poses a major health risk to the mine workers. Following are the sources of noise in the existing open cast mine project are being observed such as Drilling, & Blasting, Loading and during movement of vehicles.

MITIGATION MEASURES

- Usage of sharp drill bits while drilling which will help in reducing noise;

- Secondary blasting will be totally avoided and hydraulic rock breaker will be used for breaking boulders;
- Controlled blasting with proper spacing, burden, stemming and optimum charge/delay will be maintained;
- The blasting will be carried out during favourable atmospheric condition and less human activity timings by using nonelectrical initiation system;
- Proper maintenance, oiling and greasing of machines will be done every week to reduce generation of noise;
- Provision of sound insulated chambers for the workers working on machines (HEMM) producing higher levels of noise;
- Silencers / mufflers will be installed in all machineries;
- Green Belt/Plantation will be developed around the project area and along the haul roads. The plantation minimizes propagation of noise;
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) like ear muffs/ear plugs will be provided to the operators of HEMM and persons working near HEMM and their use will be ensured through training and awareness.
- Regular medical check-up and proper training to personnel to create awareness about adverse noise level effects.

4.5 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

There is no Forest land, National Parks, Eco sensitive areas, Wild life sanctuaries within the radius of 10km.

There are no migratory corridors, migratory avian-fauna, and rare endemic and endangered species. There are no wild animals in the area. No breeding and nesting site were identified in project site. No National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary found within 10km radius. The dumps / bunds around the mine itself act as a good barrier for entry of stray animals. In the post mining stage, barbed wire fencing is proposed all around the mined-out void to prevent fall of animals in the mine pits.

MITIGATION MEASURES

Keeping all this in mind the mitigations have been suggested under environmental management plan. With the understanding of the role of plant species as bio-filter to control air pollution, appropriate plant species (mainly tree species) have been suggested conceding the area/site requirements and needed performance of specific species. The details of year wise proposed plantation program are given in Table 4.13.

The main objective of the green belt is to provide a barrier between the source of pollution and the surrounding areas

In order to compensate the loss of vegetation cover, it is suggested to carry out afforestation program mainly in proposed areas falls in the cluster earmarked for plantation program as per Approved Mining Plan in different phases. This habitat improvement program would ensure the faunal species to re-colonize and improve the abundance status in the core zone.

The objectives of the green belt cover will cover the following:

- Noise abatement
- Ecological restoration
- Aesthetic, biological and visual improvement of area due to improved vegetative and plantations cover.

GREENBELT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

| Year | No. of trees proposed to be planted | Survival % | Area to be covered | Name of the species | No. of trees expected to be grown |
|------|-------------------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| I | 3000 | 80% | Safety zone, Approach Road and village road | Neem, Pongamia Pinnata, etc., | 2400 |

4.6 SOCIO ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT**Construction Phase*****Anticipated Impacts:***

- ♣ No. of people will get employment during the construction stage resulting in the ancillary development and growth. Nearby Local people will be given preference for employment on the basis of their skill and experience.
- ♣ Further due to proposed project, influx of working community will also generate an indirect employment through development of nearby market/ shops, trade centers, activities, transportation etc.
- ♣ Population influx during the construction phase can introduce various water and vector borne diseases which can lead to various unhygienic health problems in the area by disturbing the existing sanitation infrastructure.
- ♣ Rapid diverse population influx at the project site can create unusual behavioural activity such as worker-community conflicts, increase violence such as theft/stabbing and increased consumption of drugs/alcohol within the area.
- ♣ Impacts on the health of nearby villagers can be envisaged due to the transportation activities leading to short term exposure of fugitive dust, resulting in various acute diseases such as increased eye irritation, nausea, headache etc.

Mitigation measures:

- ♣ Deploying of mobile toilets or the construction of temporary toilets will be done near to the construction site with the adequate water supply.
- ♣ Awareness programme will be conducted before the monsoon season regarding the spread of water borne/ vector diseases.

♣ Mosquito repellents will be provided in the nearby villages and at construction site to avoid the spread of diseases.

♣ To overcome behavioural impact, proper site in charge with timely supervision will be done. In advance, facilities with equipped medical and safety services will be provided to take a control over the incident/violence if any caused.

♣ To overcome behavioural impact, supervision will be done by site in charge. In advance, emergency cell will be formed with fully equipped communication system, medical and safety services to take control over the incident/violence caused.

Operation Phase:

Anticipated Impacts:

♣ Long term exposure to the pollutants such as PM, SO₂ and NO₂ Cement dust have a potential to create health impacts such as risk of cardiovascular and respiratory disease, eye irritation, bronchitis, lung damage, increased heart ailments, etc.

♣ Other impacts, associated with the applied for rough stone and gravel quarry Project will create a positive impact as it will result in the overall development of the area in respect to the infrastructure development, educational growth, health facilities etc., as a part of the CSR activity.

Mitigation Measures:

♣ In order to mitigate the long-term health impacts, efficient Air Pollution Control Equipment (APCE) like Bag House / Bag Filter / ESP will be installed at all major stacks to keep the emissions within the permissible limits. To reduce the gaseous emission, Pyro-process itself acts as a long SO₂ scrubber and De - NO_x system will be installed for fuel burning along with calciner for low NO_x formation. To reduce fugitive emission from vehicles and machineries will be regularly monitored and maintained.

♣ For emergency, proposed to develop an occupational health centre for its employees and nearby villagers.

4.6.3 Impact Evaluation:

Table 4.6.3 Impact Evaluation Impact evaluation is given in table below.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Impact Evaluation Element | Impact on socio economics due to the applied for Munnur rough stone and Gravel cluster quarry over an extent of 4.85.0 ha of Patta lands of MunnurVillage, Pugalur Taluk, Karur District, Tamil Nadu State. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Potential Effect/ Concern | Proposed project will provide direct & indirect employment opportunities to the local residents, which will help to increase their earning and better living standard as well as further up-liftment of socio-economic status of the area. | | | |
| Characteristics of Impacts | | | | |
| Nature | Positive | | Negative | Netural |
| | ✓ | | | |
| Type | Direct | Indirect | Cumulative | |
| | | | ✓ | |
| Extent | Project area | Local | Zonal | Regional |
| | | ✓ | | |
| Duration | Short time | | Long term | |
| | | | ✓ | |
| Intensity | Low | | Medium | High |
| | | | ✓ | |
| Frequency | Remote (R) | Occasional (O) | Periodic (P) | Continuous (C) |
| | | | ✓ | |
| Significance of Impact | | | | |
| Significance | Insignificant | Minor | Moderate | Major |
| | | | ✓ | |

5. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES (TECHNOLOGY AND SITE)

No alternatives are suggested as all the mine sites are mineral specific

6. ENVIRONMENT MONITORING PROGRAM

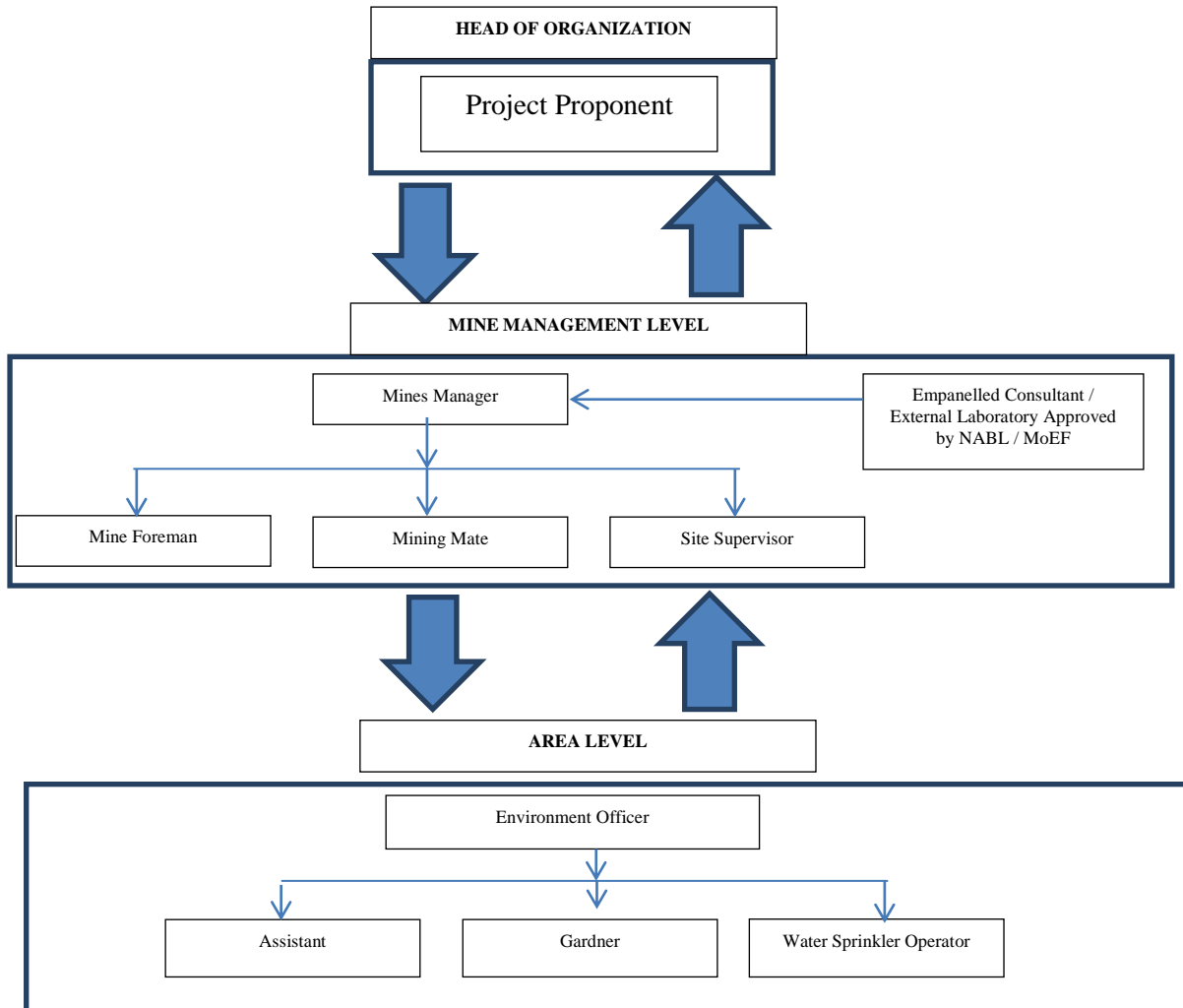
An Environment monitoring cell (EMC) will be constituted to monitor the implementation of EMP and other environmental protection measures in all the proposed quarries.

The responsibilities of this cell will be:

- Implementation of pollution control measures
- Monitoring programme implementation
- Post-plantation care

- To check the efficiency of pollution control measures taken
- Any other activity as may be related to environment
- Seeking expert’s advice when needed.

6.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING CELL



6.2 POST ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE MONITORING SCHEDULE

| S. No. | Environment Attributes | Location | Monitoring | | Parameters |
|--------|--------------------------|--|----------------|------------------------------|---|
| | | | Duration | Frequency | |
| 1 | Air Quality | 2 Locations (1 Core & 1 Buffer) | 24 hours | Once in 6 months | Fugitive Dust, PM _{2.5} , PM ₁₀ , SO ₂ and NO _x . |
| 2 | Meteorology | At mine site before start of Air Quality Monitoring & IMD Secondary Data | Hourly / Daily | Continuous online monitoring | Wind speed, Wind direction, Temperature, Relative humidity and Rainfall |
| 3 | Water Quality Monitoring | 2 Locations (1SW & 1 GW) | - | Once in 6 months | Parameters specified under IS:10500, 1993 & CPCB Norms |
| 4 | Hydrology | Water level in open wells in buffer zone around 1 km at specific wells | - | Once in 6 months | Depth in bgl |
| 5 | Noise | 2 Locations (1 Core & 1 Buffer) | Hourly – 1 Day | Once in 6 months | Leq, Lmax, Lmin, Leq Day & Leq Night |
| 6 | Vibration | At the nearest habitation (in case of reporting) | – | During blasting Operation | Peak Particle Velocity |
| 7 | Soil | 2 Locations (1 Core & 1 Buffer) | – | Once in six months | Physical and Chemical Characteristics |
| 8 | Greenbelt | Within the Project Area | Daily | Monthly | Maintenance |

7. ADDITIONAL STUDIES

7.1 RISK ASSESSMENT

The methodology for the risk assessment has been based on the specific risk assessment guidance issued by the Directorate General of Mine Safety (DGMS), Dhanbad, vide Circular No.13 of 2002, dated 31st December, 2002. The DGMS risk assessment process is intended to identify existing and probable hazards in the work environment and all operations and assess the risk levels of those hazards in order to prioritize those that need immediate attention. Further, mechanisms responsible for these hazards are identified and their control measures, set to timetable are recorded along with pinpointed responsibilities.

The whole quarry operation will be carried out under the direction of a Qualified Competent Mine Manager holding certificate of competency to manage a metalliferous mine granted by the DGMS, Dhanbad for proposed project. Risk Assessment is all about prevention of accidents and to take necessary steps to prevent it from happening.

7.2 DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Natural disasters like Earthquake, Landslides have not been recorded in the past history as the terrain is categorized under seismic zone III. The area is far away from the sea hence the disaster due to heavy floods and tsunamis are not anticipated.

The Disaster Management Plan is aimed to ensure safety of life, protection of environment, protection of installation, restoration of production and salvage operations in this same order of priorities.

The objective of the Disaster Management Plan is to make use of the combined resources of the mine and the outside services to achieve the following:

- Rescue and medical treatment of casualties;
- Safeguard other people;
- Minimize damage to property and the environment;
- Initially contain and ultimately bring the incident under control;
- Secure the safe rehabilitation of affected area; and
- Preserve relevant records and equipment for the subsequent inquiry into the cause and circumstances of the emergency.

7.3 CUMULATIVE IMPACT STUDY

CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION LOAD OF ROUGH STONE

| PROPOSED PRODUCTION DETAILS | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Quarry | 10 Years in m ³ | Per Year in m ³ | Per Day in m ³ | Number of Lorry Load Per Day (6m ³ per load) |
| P1 | 10,66,200 | 106620 | 355 | 59 |
| E1 | 2,81,072 | 56,214 | 187 | 31 |
| Total | 13,47,272 | 1,62,834 | 542 | 90 |

CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION LOAD OF GRAVEL

| PROPOSED PRODUCTION DETAILS | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Quarry | 1 - 3 Years in m ³ | Per Year in m ³ | Per Day in m ³ | Number of Lorry Load Per Day (6m ³ per load) |
| P1 | 82,764 | 27,588 | 92 | 15 |
| E1 | 2,738 | 913 | 3 | 1 |
| Total | 85,502 | 28,501 | 95 | 16 |

PREDICTED NOISE INCREMENTAL VALUES FROM CLUSTER

| Location ID | Background Value (Day) dB(A) | Incremental Value dB(A) | Total Predicted dB(A) | Residential Area Standards dB(A) |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Habitation Near P1 | 43.1 | 49.2 | 51.7 | 55 |
| Habitation Near E1 | 42.3 | 43.2 | 45.8 | |

SOCIO ECONOMIC BENEFITS

| Code | Project Cost | CER @ 2% |
|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| P1 | Rs. 1,02,79,000/- | Rs.5,00,000 |
| E1 | Rs.26,50,000/- | Rs.5,00,000 |
| Total | Rs.12,92,9000/- | Rs 10,00,000/- |

As per para 6 (II) of the office memorandum, all the mines being a green field project & Capital Investment is \leq 100 crores, they shall contribute 2% of Capital Investment towards CER as per directions of EAC/SEAC.

- 1 Proposed project shall fund towards CER – **Rs 5,00,000/-**
- Existing project shall fund towards CER – **Rs 5,00,000/-**
- 2 Projects in Cluster shall fund towards CER – **Rs 10,00,00/-**

8. PROJECT BENEFITS

Thiru.T. Manojkumar for Quarrying Rough Stone and Gravel at Munnur Village aims to produce cumulatively 10,66,200 m³ Rough Stone over a period of 10Years & 82,764 m³ of Gravel over a period of 3 Years. This will enhance the socio-economic activities in the adjoining areas and will result in the following benefits

- ✚ Increase in Employment Potential
- ✚ Improvement in Socio-Economic Welfare
- ✚ Improvement in Physical Infrastructure
- ✚ Improvement in Social infrastructure

9. ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Environment Monitoring Cell discussed formed by the mine management will ensure effective implementation of environment management plan and to ensure compliance of environmental statutory guidelines through Mine Management Level.

The said team will be responsible for:

- ✚ Monitoring of the water/ waste water quality, air quality and solid waste generated
- ✚ Analysis of the water and air samples collected through external laboratory
- ✚ Implementation and monitoring of the pollution control and protective measures/ devices which shall include financial estimation, ordering, installation of air pollution control equipment, waste water treatment plant, etc.
- ✚ Co-ordination of the environment related activities within the project as well as with outside agencies
- ✚ Collection of health statistics of the workers and population of the surrounding villages
- ✚ Green belt development
- ✚ Monitoring the progress of implementation of the environmental monitoring programme

- ✚ Compliance to statutory provisions, norms of State Pollution Control Board, Ministry of Environment and Forests and the conditions of the environmental clearance as well as the consents to establish and consents to operate.

10. CONCLUSION

Various aspects of mining activities were considered and related impacts were evaluated. Considering all the possible ways to mitigate the environmental concerns Environmental Management Plan was prepared and fund has been allocated for the same. The EMP is dynamic, flexible and subjected to periodic review. For project where the major environmental impacts are associated, EMP will be under regular review. Senior Management responsible for the project will conduct a review of EMP and its implementation to ensure that the EMP remains effective and appropriate. Thus, the proper steps will be taken to accomplish all the goals mentioned in the EMP and the project will bring the positive impact in the study area.