

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## PROJECT PROPONENT

Project Proponent	Proposed Project	Extent
<b>M/s. Sri Blue Metals,</b> Proprietor Thiru S. Gnanasekaran D.No 2/241, Kannarpalayam, Karamadai Post, Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District – 641 104	<b>S.F.Nos: 76/1A &amp; 76/1B (P)</b> Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District, Tamilnadu State	<b>5.07.22 ha</b>

### M/s. SRI BLUE METALS ROUGH STONE & GRAVEL QUARRY

**“B1” CATEGORY – MINOR MINERAL – CLUSTER – NON-FOREST LAND**

**CLUSTER EXTENT = 27.93.72 ha**

**At**

Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District

**Complied as per ToR obtained**

**Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9991/SEAC/1(a)ToR-1496/2023 Dated: 22.06.2023**

**Environmental Consultant**

**GEO EXPLORATION AND MINING SOLUTIONS** 

Old No. 260-B, New No. 17,  
Advaitha Ashram Road, Alagapuram,  
Salem – 636 004, Tamil Nadu, India



Accredited for sector 1 Category ‘A’, 31 Category ‘B’ & 38 Category ‘B’

Certificate No : NABET/EIA/2225/RA 0276 Dated: 06.08.2025

Phone: 0427-2431989,

Email: ifthiahmed@gmail.com, geothangam@gmail.com

Web: [www.gemssalem.com](http://www.gemssalem.com)



**Laboratory**

**EHS 360 LABS PRIVATE LIMITED,**

10/2 Ground floor, 50<sup>th</sup> street, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue,  
Ashok Nagar, Chennai – 600 083.

**BASELINE MONITORING PERIOD - December 2022 to February 2023**

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

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Rough Stone is the major requirement for construction industry. The proposed project is categorized under category “B1” Activity 1(a) (mining lease area falls in the cluster, Total extent of the quarries within 500m radius is < 5ha). This EIA Report is prepared for **M/s. Sri Blue Metals Rough Stone and Gravel Quarry** over an extent of 5.07.22 ha at Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District and Tamil Nadu State, Total Extent of the proposed and existing quarries falls in the cluster category is 27.93.72ha, in Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu State, cluster area calculated as per MoEF & CC Notification S.O. 2269(E) Dated 1st July 2016.

This EIA Report is prepared in compliance with ToR obtained vide **Lr No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9991/SEAC/l(a)ToR-1496/2023 Dated: 22.06.2023**

The Baseline Monitoring study has been carried out during the period of December 2022 - February 2023 and this EIA and EMP report is prepared for considering cumulative impacts arising out of these projects, the Cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment study is undertaken, which is followed by preparation of a detailed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) individually to minimize those adverse impacts.

**“Draft EIA report prepared on the basis of ToR Issued & Standard ToR for carrying out Public Hearing for the Grant of Environmental Clearance from SEIAA, - Tamil Nadu”**

### 1.1 DETAILS OF PROJECT PROPONENT –

Name of the Project	Rough Stone & Gravel Quarry Project
S.F. No.	76/1A & 76/1B (P)
Extent	5.07.22 ha
Land Type	Patta Land
Village Taluk and District	Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District

Source: Approved Mining Plan of Respective Proposal

### 1.2 QUARRY DETAILS WITHIN 500 M RADIUS

*PROPOSED QUARRIES					
CODE	Name of the Owner	S.F. Nos	Extent	Status	Remarks
P1	M/s. Sri Blue Metals,	76/1A & 76/1B (P)	5.07.22	Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9991/SEAC/l(a)ToR-1496/2023 Dated: 22.06.2023	
P2	Thiru.C.N. Mani,	75	2.47.5 ha	Tor obtained vide Lr. No SEIAA TN/F.No.8709/ ToR-1084/2021 Dated: 17.03.2022	EC granted
P3	Tmt.M.Muthammal	77/2E (P),77/2F(P),& 79/1A (P)	1.82.0Ha	SEIAA-TN/F.No.8393/SEAC/ToR-973/2021 Dated: 05.07.2021	EC granted
P4	Thiru.A.Nandakumar	78/1(P), 419&420	3.46.0 Ha	Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9011/SEAC/ToR-1161/2022 Dated: 06.06.2022	Under EC process
P5	Thiru.R.K.Palanisamy	340 (P) and 341/3 (P)	4.90.0 Ha	Lr.No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.9309/SEAC/ToR-1242/2022 Dated: 30.08.2022	Under EC process
<b>Total</b>			<b>17.72.72 ha</b>		
*EXISTING QUARRIES					

CODE	Name of the Owner	S.F. No	Extent	Status	Remarks
E-1	Thiru.S. Gnanasekaran,	77/2D (P)	1.01.2 ha	01.10.2018 to 30.09.2023	Quarry in under operation
E-2	Thiru.S.Gnanasekaran,	74/2	2.37.0 ha	28.10.2022 to 27.10.2027	Quarry in under operation
E-3	Tmt.R.Poorani,	80/1	1.27.0 ha	22.12.2018 to 21.12.2023	Quarry in under operation
E-4	Tmt.T.Kaveriammal,	77/2B	0.99.0 ha	24.12.2018 to 23.12.2023	Quarry in under operation
E-5	M/s. Technomax Building Solution India Pvt Ltd	345/3 (P)	1.45.8 Ha	26.10.2018 to 25.10.2023	Quarry in under operation
E-6	M/s. Sri Blue Metals,	77/1B & 421/2B (Part)	3.11.0 ha	14.02.2023 to 13.02.2028	Quarry in under operation
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>10.21.0 ha</b>		
<b>EXPIRED QUARRY</b>					
CODE	Name of the Owner	S.F. No	Extent	Status	Remarks
EX-1	Thiru.R.K.Selvakumar	69 (P)	<b>2.19.0 ha</b>	07.10.2017 to 16.10.2022	-
<b>ABANDONED QUARRY</b>					
A-1	Tmt.K.Vidya	76/2	1.21.5	21.12.2000 to 20.12.2005	
A-2	Thiru.R.Venkatasamy	67/2	0.61.0	09.06.2003 to 08.06.2008	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1.82.5 ha</b>		
<b>TOTAL CLUSTER EXTENT*</b>			<b>27.93.72 Ha</b>		

Note: -Cluster area is calculated as per MoEF & CC Notification – S.O. 2269 (E) Dated: 01.07.2016

### 1.3 SALIENT FEATURES OF THE PROPOSAL

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT – P1

Name of the Quarry	M/s. Sri Blue Metals Rough stone and Gravel quarry	
Land Ownership	It is a Patta land, S.F.No. 76/1A is registered in the name of Thiru.P.Sidhartha Mowli and S.F.No. 76/1B (P) is registered in the name of Thiru.S.Palanisamy. The applicant has obtained consent from pattadhars.	
Land classification	It is a Patta Land-Punjai (Barren Land)	
SF No & Area (Ha)	76/1A & 76/1B (P) & 5.07.22 ha	
Village, Taluk & District	Chikkarampalayam Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District.	
Toposheet No	58-A/15 & A/16	
Latitude between	11°14'54.10"N to 11°15'04.77"N	
Longitude between	76°58'07.22"E to 76°58'15.52"E	
Highest Elevation	355m AMSL	
Proposed Depth of Mining	42m (2m Gravel + 40m Rough Stone) below the ground level	
Geological Resources	Rough Stone in m <sup>3</sup>	Gravel m <sup>3</sup>
	<b>19,73,814m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>82,854m<sup>3</sup></b>
Mineable Reserves	Rough Stone in m <sup>3</sup>	Gravel m <sup>3</sup>
	<b>9,67,173m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>67,082m<sup>3</sup></b>
Yearwise Production	Rough Stone in m <sup>3</sup>	Gravel m <sup>3</sup>
	<b>9,67,173m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>69,942m<sup>3</sup></b>
Existing pit dimension (As per Approved mining plan)	Pit-I: 158m (L) x 67m (W) x 15m (D) bgl	

Consent to Operate (CTO) from TNPCB	Proceedings No. F.0694CBN/RS/DEE/TNPCB/CBN/W/2016 Dated:21.01.2016	
Ultimate Pit Dimension	298m (L) x 180m (W) x 42m (D) bgl	
Water Level in the surrounds area	70 – 65 m bgl	
Method of Mining	Opencast Mechanized Mining Method involving drilling and blasting	
Topography	The lease applied area exhibits Flat terrain. The area has gentle sloping towards East side. The altitude of the area is 355m (max) above Mean Sea level. The area is covered by 2m thickness of Gravel formation. Massive Charnockite which is clearly inferred from the existing quarry pits.	
Machinery proposed	Jack Hammer	6 Nos
	Compressor	2 Nos
	Wagon Drill	2 Nos
	Excavator with Bucket and Rock Breaker	2No
	Trucks	4 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	38 Nos	
Project Cost	Rs. 4,19,60,000/-	
EMP cost	Rs. 3,80,000/-	
CER Cost	Rs. 5,00,000/-	
Nearby Water Bodies	Odai	250m-W
	Odai	660m-W
	Belladhi lake	750m-NW
	Tank	1km-NE
	Odai	1.6km- SE
	Bhavani River	6.8km-NE
Greenbelt Development Plan	It is proposed to plant 2540 Nos of trees in the safety barrier and village road.	
Proposed Water Requirement	1.2 KLD	
Nearest Habitation	600m Southwest	

Source: Approved Mining Plan

## 1.4 STATUTORY DETAILS

### SCREENING

- The proponent applied for Rough Stone and Gravel Quarry Lease Dated: 30.03.2022
- Precise Area Communication Letter was issued by the District Collector, Coimbatore R.C. No: 311/Mines/2022, Dated: 29.12.2022.
- The Mining Plan was prepared by Recognized Qualified Person and approved by Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Coimbatore District, vide R.C.No: 311/Mines/2022 Dated: 06.03.2023.
- 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 vide online Proposal No. SIA/TN/MIN/425793/2023 Dated: 12.04.2023

### SCOPING

- The proposal was placed in 382<sup>nd</sup> SEAC meeting held on 09.06.2023 and the committee recommended for issue of ToR.
- The proposal was considered in 632<sup>nd</sup> SEIAA meeting held on 21.06.2023 & 22.06.2023 and issued ToR vide Letter No SEIAA-TN/F.No.9991/SEAC/1(a)ToR-1496/2023 Dated: 22.06.2023.

## 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed projects are site specific and there is no additional area required for this project. There is no effluent generation/discharge from the proposed quarries.

Method of mining is common for all the proposed quarries in the cluster. 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	National Highway (NH-181) Coimbatore – Gundlupete Road – 3.0km-SW State Highway (SH-168) Karamadai – Kariyampalayam Road – 2.0km-SE
Nearest Village	Chikkarampalayam – 1.0 Km South West
Nearest Town	Karamadai – 2.0 km – South West
Nearest Railway Station	Karamadai Railway station – 2.0Km – SW
Nearest Airport	Coimbatore –25.0 km – South East
Seaport	Kochi - 165km – Southwest

### 2.2 LAND USE PATTERN OF THE LEASE APPLIED AREA

Description	Present area (Ha)	Area at the end of this quarrying period (Ha)
Quarrying Pit	0.80.00	4.14.50
Infrastructure	Nil	0.01.00
Roads	0.04.00	0.04.00
Green Belt	Nil	0.20.00
Unutilized Area	4.23.22	0.67.72
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5.07.22</b>	<b>5.07.22</b>

Source: Approved Mining Plans of respective Proposal

### 2.3 OPERATIONAL DETAILS OF LEASE APPLIED AREA

PARTICULARS	DETAILS	
	Rough Stone (5Year Plan period)	Gravel in m <sup>3</sup>
Geological Resources	19,73,814	82,854
Mineable Reserves	9,67,173	67,082
Production for five-year plan period	9,67,173	69,942
Mining Plan Period	5 years	
Number of Working Days	300 days	
Production per day	645	78
No of Lorry loads (6m <sup>3</sup> per load)	107	13
Total Depth of Mining	42m (2m Gravel + 40m Rough Stone) below the ground level	

Source: Respective proposed quarries mining plan

## 2.4 YEAR-WISE PRODUCTION PLAN

### AVAILABLE GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Description	Rough Stone	Gravel
Geological Resource in m <sup>3</sup>	19,73,814	82,854
Mineable Resource in m <sup>3</sup>	9,67,173	67,082

### YEAR-WISE PRODUCTION PLAN

Year	Rough Stone (m <sup>3</sup> )	Gravel (m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>I</b>	2,38,910	Dump – 2,860
		36,652
<b>II</b>	1,80,228	16,110
<b>III</b>	2,11,415	14,320
<b>IV</b>	1,94,040	-
<b>V</b>	1,42,580	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,67,173</b>	<b>69,942</b>

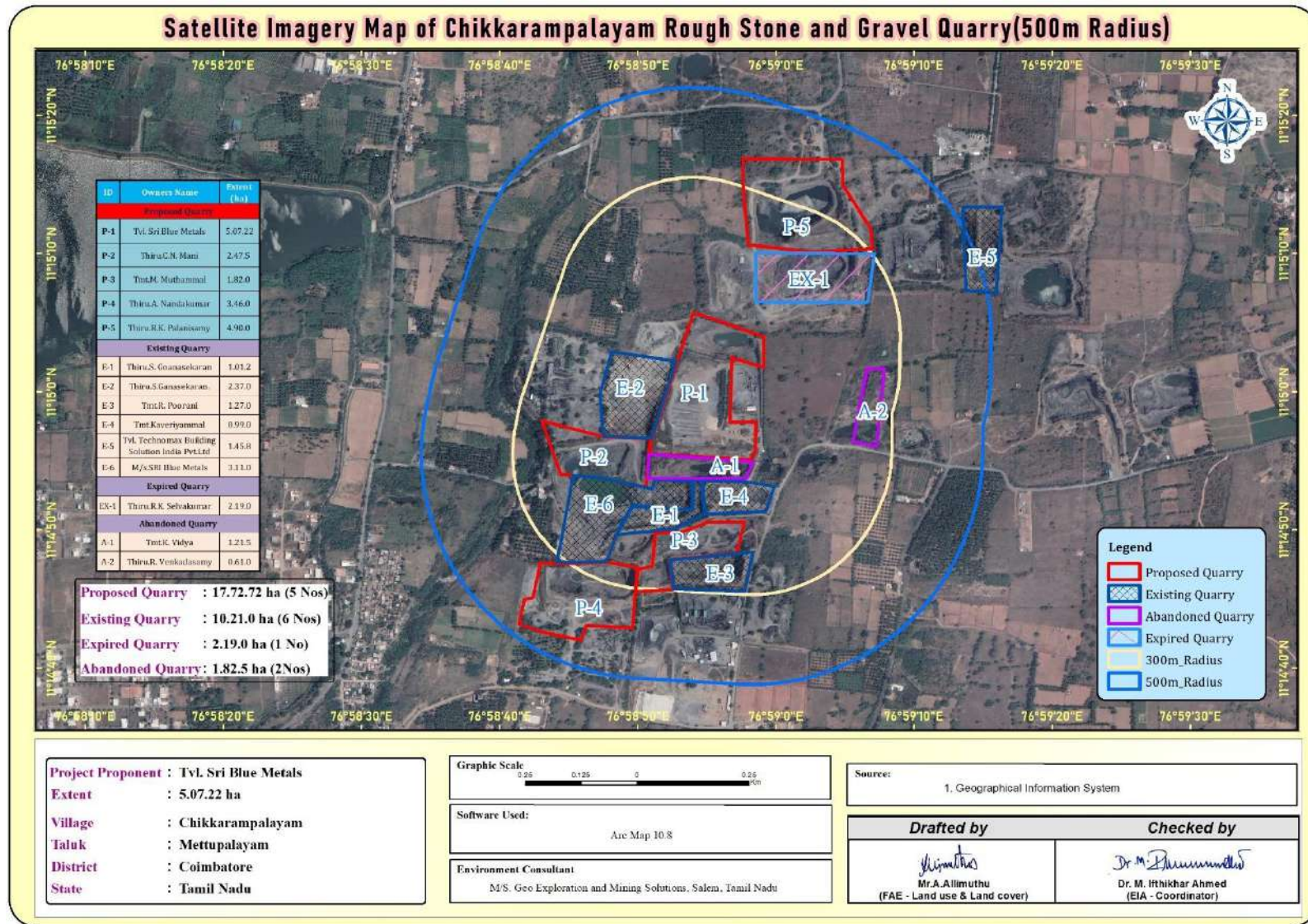
Source: Approved Mining Plan

**FIGURE – 1: GOOGLE IMAGE SHOWING APPLIED QUARRY LEASE AREA – P1**



Source: Google Earth Imagery

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





**FIGURE – 3: TOPOSHEET MAP COVERING 10 KM RADIUS**

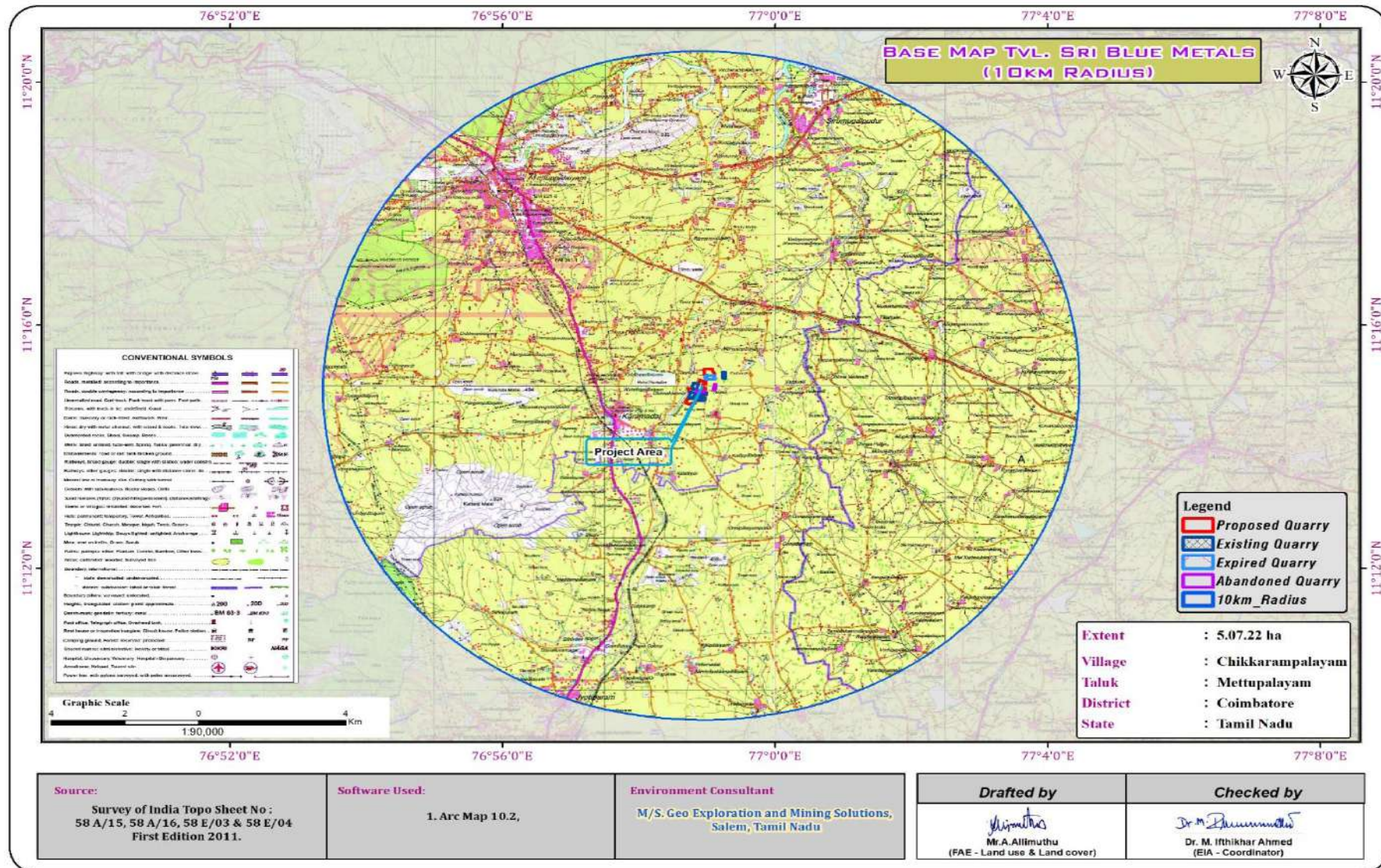
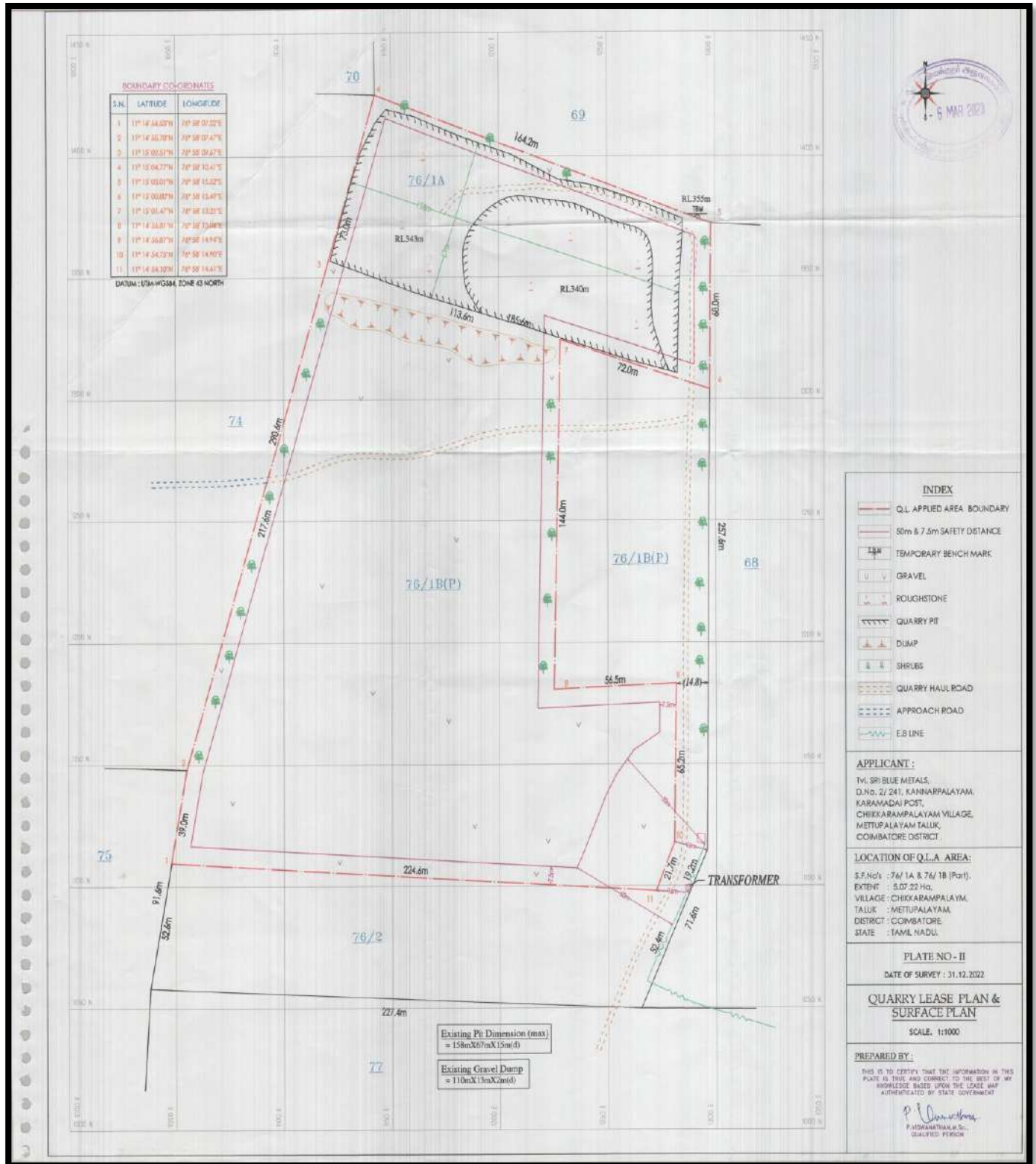


FIGURE. 4: QUARRY LEASE PLAN / SURFACE PLAN



Source: Approved Mining Plan

## 2.5 METHOD OF MINING

Proposed Method of Mining is common for all the Proposed Projects – The method of mining is 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 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.

## 2.6 PROPOSED MACHINERY DEPLOYMENT

S.NO.	TYPE	NOS	SIZE/CAPACITY	MOTIVE POWER
1	Jack hammer with inbuilt dust collector unit	6	1.2m to 2.0m	Compressed air
2	Compressor	2	400psi	Diesel Drive
3	Wagon Drill	2	60 HP	TAM Rock
4	Excavator with Bucket / Rock Breaker	2	300 HP	Diesel Drive
5	Trucks	4	35 Tonnes	Diesel Drive

Source: Approved Mining Plans

## 2.7 CONCEPTUAL MINING PLAN/ FINAL MINE CLOSURE PLAN

- ✚ At the end of life of mine, the excavated mine pit / void will act as artificial reservoir for collecting rain water and helps to meet out the demand or crises during drought season.
- ✚ After mine closure the greenbelt developed along the safety barrier and top benches and temporary water reservoir will enhance the ecosystem
- ✚ Mine Closure is a process of returning a disturbed site to its natural state or which prepares it for other productive uses that prevents or minimizes any adverse effects on the environment or threats to human health and safety.
- ✚ The principle closure objectives are for rehabilitated mines to be physically safe to humans and animals, geo-technically stable, geo-chemically non-polluting/ non-contaminating, and capable of sustaining an agreed post-mining land use.

## 2.8 ULTIMATE PIT DIMENSION

PROPOSAL – P1			
Pit	Length (Max) (m)	Width (Max) (m)	Depth (Max)
I	298	180	42 m bgl

Source: Approved Mining Plan

## 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Field monitoring studies to evaluate the base line status of the project site were carried out during December 2022 to February 2023 as per CPCB guidelines. Environmental Monitoring data has been collected with reference to proposed mine by EHS360 LABS PRIVATE LIMITED ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Certified & MoEF Notified Laboratory.

### 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	5 (1 core & 4 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 (2 surface water & 4 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	PM10 PM2.5 SO2 NOX Fugitive Dust	24 hourly twice a week (December 2022 – February 2023)	9 (2 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	7 (3 core & 4 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 Quadrate & 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: Onsite Monitoring Data/Sampling by EHS Laboratories

The data has been collected as per the requirement of the ToR issued by SEIAA – TN.

### 3.2 LAND ENVIRONMENT

S.No	CLASSIFICATION	AREA_HA	AREA_%
<b>BUILTUP</b>			
1	URBAN	1156.67	3.58
2	RURAL	1338.12	4.15
3	MINING	280.58	0.87
<b>AGRICULTURAL LAND</b>			
4	CROP LAND	11697.26	36.24
5	FALLOW LAND	11002.40	34.09
6	PLANTATION	2676.86	8.29
<b>FOREST</b>			
7	FOREST	1630.31	5.05
<b>BARREN/WASTE LANDS</b>			
8	SCRUB LAND	2118.53	6.56

WETLANDS/ WATER BODIES		
9	WATER BODIES/LAKE/RIVER	372.84
TOTAL		100.00

☞ Chikkarapalayam village rough stone and gravel quarry has proposed Project. It is a Patta land.

☞ Total project area is **32273.57**ha around 10km radius.

From the above table, pie diagram and land use map it is inferred that the majority of the land in the study area is Agriculture and fallow land (includes crop land) 70.33% followed by Built-up Lands - 7.73%, Scrub & Forest land – 11.61%, and Water bodies 1.16%. The total mining area within the study area is 280.58 ha i.e., 0.87%.

The cluster area of 27.93.72 ha contributes about 8.65% of the total mining area within the study area. This small percentage of Mining Activities shall not have any significant impact on the environment.

### 3.3 SOIL ENVIRONMENT

#### 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 to Sandy Loam Soil and Bulk Density of Soils in the study area varied between 1.02 – 1.37 g/cc. The Water Holding Capacity and Porosity of the soil samples is found to be medium i.e. ranging from 31.1 – 47.4 %. And 21.3-28.9 %.

#### Chemical Characteristics –

- The nature of soil is slightly alkaline to strongly alkaline with pH range 7.10 to 8.27
- The available Nitrogen content range between 188to 366 kg/ha
- The available Phosphorus content range between 30.1 to 42.5 kg/ha
- The available Potassium range between 28.8 to 41.3 mg/kg

### 3.4 WATER ENVIRONMENT

#### Surface Water

##### PH:

The pH varied from 7.40 to 7.83while turbidity found within the standards (Optimal pH range for sustainable aquatic life is 6.5 to 8.5 pH).

##### Total Dissolved Solids:

Total Dissolved Solids varied from 318 to 440 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 69.5 – 101.2 mg/l. Nitrates varied from 5.1 to 12 mg/l, while sulphates varied from 24.1 to 32.2 mg/l.

#### Ground Water

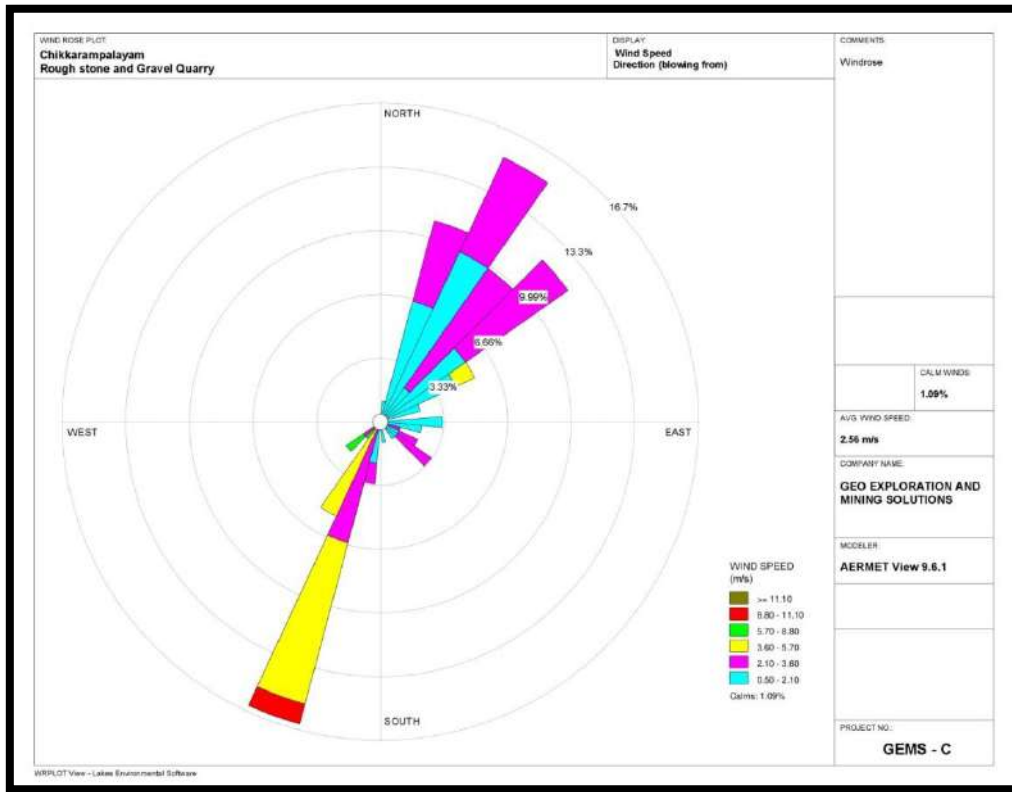
The pH of the water samples collected ranged from 7.10 to 7.59 and within the acceptable limit of 6.5 to 8.5. pH, Sulphates and Chlorides of water samples from all the sources are within the limits as per the Standard. On Turbidity, the water samples meet the requirement. The Total Dissolved Solids were found in the range of 335 – 428 mg/l in all samples. The Total hardness varied between 172 – 259 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.

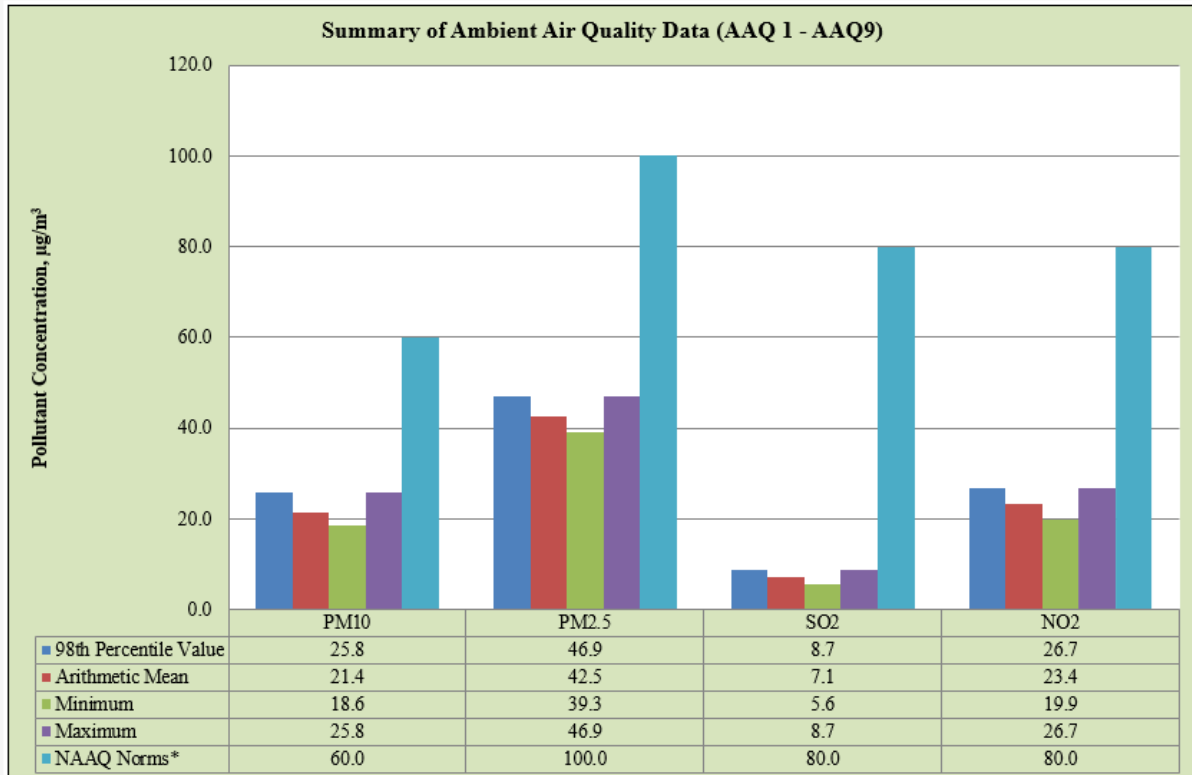
### 3.5 AIR ENVIRONMENT

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 – 5: WIND ROSE DIAGRAM**



**FIGURE – 6: SUMMARY OF AMBIENT AIR QUALITY DATA**



The results of ambient air quality monitoring for the period (December 2022 to February 2023) are presented in the report. Data has been compiled for three months.

As per monitoring data, PM<sub>10</sub> ranges from 38.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 48.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, PM<sub>2.5</sub> data ranges from 18.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 25.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, SO<sub>2</sub> ranges from 5.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 8.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and NO<sub>2</sub> data ranges from 18.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 26.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The concentration levels of the above criteria pollutants were observed to be well within the limits of NAAQS prescribed by CPCB.

### **3.6 NOISE ENVIRONMENT**

Ambient noise levels were measured at 7 (Seven) locations around the proposed project area. Noise levels recorded in core zone during day time were from 46.8 to 47.8 dB (A) Leq and during night time were from 37.6 to 39.4 dB (A) Leq. Noise levels recorded in buffer zone during day time were from 40.9 to 48.1 dB (A) Leq and during night time were from 37.3 to 40.7 dB (A) Leq.

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

### **3.7 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.

### **3.8 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 projects will aim to provide preferential employment to the local people there by improving the employment opportunity in the area and in turn the social standards will improve.

## **4. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES – IN COMMON FOR ALL PROPOSED QUARRIES**

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 soil 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 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 drains, settling tank will be constructed along the individual mining leases. The Garland drains of the individual leases will be connected to settling tank and after settling the 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 onwards 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
- 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 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 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 months 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 are no National Park and Archaeological monuments within project area. There are no migratory corridors, migratory avian-fauna, 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

To reduce the adverse effects on natural flora/fauna status of the area due to deposition of dust generated from mining operations, water sprinkling and water spraying systems will be ensured in all dust prone areas to arrest dust generation. Methodical and well-planned plantation scheme will be carried out.

### 4.5.1 GREENBELT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PROPOSAL FOR P1				
Year	No. of trees proposed to be planted	Survial %	Area to be planted	Name of the species
I	It is proposed to plant 2,540 Nos of trees in the 1 <sup>st</sup> year	80 %	7.5m Safety barrier, Panchayat Road and nearby village roads	Neem, Pongamia, Pinnata, Causarina etc.,

## 4.6 SOCIO ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

### ANTICIPATED IMPACT

- Dust generation from mining activity can have negative impact on the health of the workers and people in the nearby area.
- Approach roads can be damaged by the movement of tippers
- Increase in Employment opportunities both direct and indirect thereby increasing economic status of people of the region.

## MITIGATION MEASURES

- Good maintenance practices will be adopted for plant machinery and equipment, which will help to avert potential noise problems.
- Green belt will be developed in and around the project site as per Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines.
- Appropriate air pollution control measure will be taken to minimize the environmental impact within the core zone.
- For the safety of workers, personal protective appliances like hand gloves, helmets, safety shoes, goggles, aprons, nose masks and ear protecting devices will be provided as per mines act and rules.
- Benefit to the State and the Central governments through financial revenues by way of royalty, tax, DMF, NMET etc, from this project directly and indirectly.

## 5. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES (TECHNOLOGY AND SITE)

The site has been selected based on geological investigation and exploration as below:

- Occurrence of minerals at the specific site.
- Transportation facility for materials & manpower.
- Overall impact on environment and mitigation feasibility
- Socio – economic background.

The mineral deposits are site specific in nature; hence question of seeking alternate site does not arise for this project.

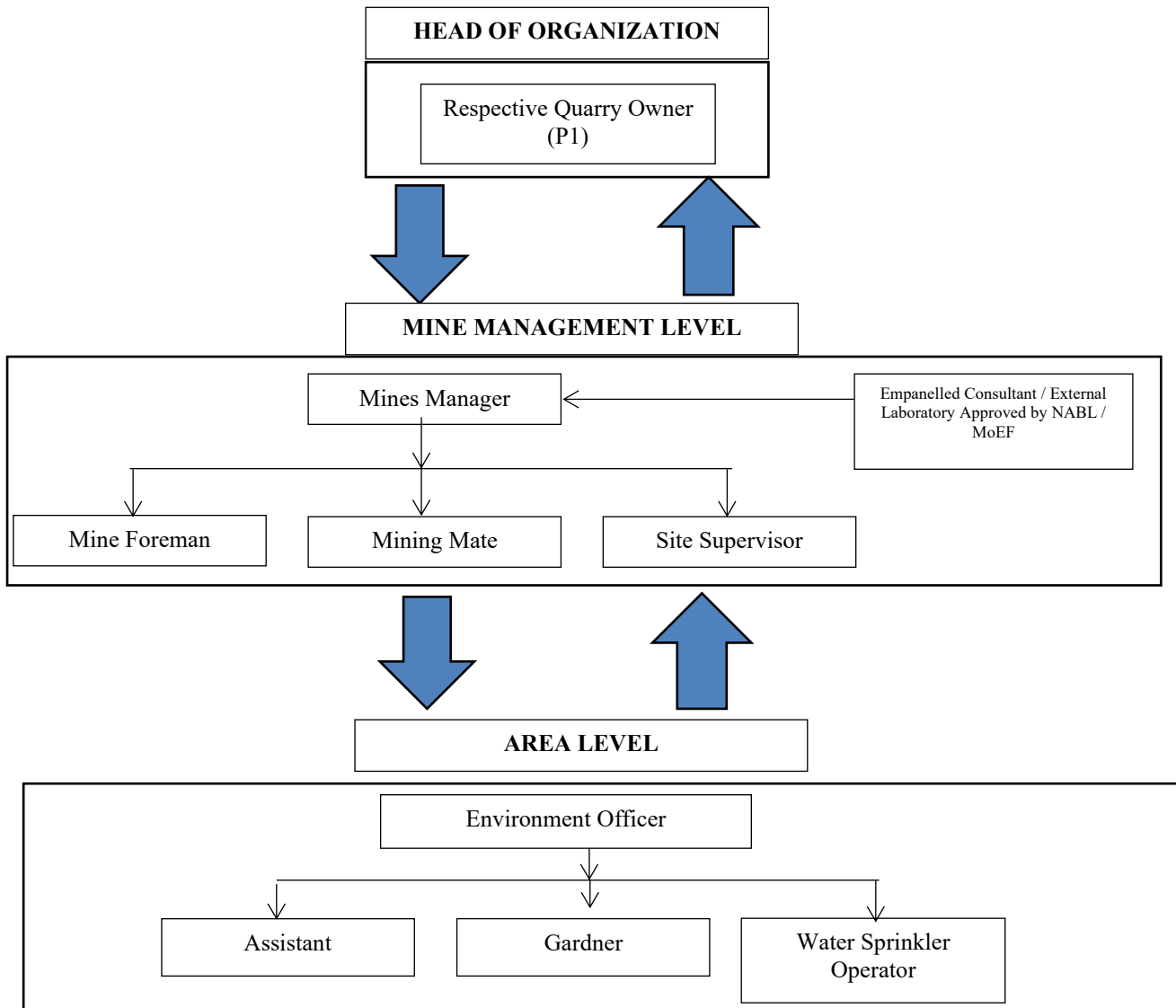
## 6. ENVIRONMENT MONITORING PROGRAM

Usually, an impact assessment study is carried over short period of time and the data cannot bring out all variations induced by natural or human activities. Hence regular monitoring program of Environmental parameters is essential to take into account the changes in the Environment.

The Objective of Monitoring -

- ✚ To check or assess the efficiency of the controlling measures;
- ✚ To establish a data base for future impact assessment studies.

### 6.1 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING CELL



## 6.2 POST ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE MONITORING SCHEDULE

Proposal					
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 <sub>2.5</sub> , PM <sub>10</sub> , SO <sub>2</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> .
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 FOR P1

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 31<sup>st</sup> 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. Risk Assessment is all about prevention of accidents and to take necessary steps to prevent it from happening.

## 7.2 DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR P1

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

Quarry	Production for five-year plan period	Per Year Production in m <sup>3</sup>	Per Day Production in m <sup>3</sup>	Number of Lorry Load Per Day
P1	9,67,173	1,93,435	645	107
P2	2,00,603	40,121	134	22
P3	63,384	12,677	42	7
P4	78,942	15,788	53	9
P5	2,88,900	57,780	193	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,599,002</b>	<b>3,19801</b>	<b>1067</b>	<b>177</b>
E1	34,130	6,826	23	4
E2	2,76,500	55,300	184	31
E3	77,355	15,471	52	9
E4	71,075	14,215	47	8
E5	1,06,085	21,217	71	12
E6	2,75,864	55,173	184	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,41,009</b>	<b>1,68,202</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24,40,011</b>	<b>4,88,003</b>	<b>1,618</b>	<b>272</b>

### CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION LOAD OF GRAVEL

Quarry	Production for p;[=five-year plan period	Per Year Production in m <sup>3</sup>	Per Day Production in m <sup>3</sup>	Number of Lorry Load Per Day
P1	69,942	23,314	78	13
P2	-	-	-	-
P3	-	-	-	-
P4	4,212	2,106	7	1
P5	1,200	1,200	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,354</b>	<b>26,620</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>15</b>
E1	1,104	1,104	4	1
E2	38,236	12,745	42	7
E3	7,068	7,068	24	4
E4	-	-	-	-
E5	19,060	9,530	32	5
E6	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,468</b>	<b>30,447</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,40,822</b>	<b>57,067</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>32</b>

**SOCIO ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM CLUSTER**

Location ID	Project Cost	CER Cost
P1	Rs.4,23,40,000	Rs. 5,00,000/-
P2	Rs.44,85,000	Rs 5,00,000/-
P3	Rs.31,37,000	Rs 5,00,000/-
P4	Rs.79,45,000	Rs.5,00,000/-
P5	Rs.57,06,000	Rs.5,00,000/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 63,61,3,000</b>	<b>Rs.25,00,000/-</b>
E1	Rs. 42,12,400/-	Rs.84,248
E2	Rs.51,50,390/-	Rs 5,00,000/-
E3	Rs.36,28,550	Rs.73,000
E4	Rs.32,64,085	Rs. 67,000
E5	Rs.28,58,000	Rs. 59,160
E6	Rs.60,13,000	Rs 5,00,000/-
<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 2,51,26,425</b>	<b>Rs. 12,83,408/-</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>Rs. 8,87,39,425</b>	<b>Rs. 37,83,408/-</b>

**EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

Description	Employment
P1	38
P2	25
P3	15
P4	38
P5	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>
E1	11
E2	27
E3	18
E4	18
E5	14
E6	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>247</b>

**GREENBELT DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS FROM CLUSTER**

Code	No of Trees proposed to be planted	Survival %	Area to be covered	Name of the Species
P1	2540	80%	Safety barrier & village road	Neem, Pungan
P2	1,250	80%		Neem, Pungan
P3	750	80 %		Neem, Pungan
P4	2080	80 %		Neem, Casuarina
P5	2500	80 %		Neem, Casuarina
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,120</b>	<b>80 %</b>		
E1	100	80 %		Neem, Pungan
E2	1000	80 %		Neem, Pungan
E3	100	80 %		Neem, Pungan
E4	150	80 %		Neem, Pungan
E5	200	80 %		Neem, Casuarina
E6	1500	80 %	Neem, Pungan	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,050</b>	<b>80 %</b>	Neem, Pungan	

## 8. PROJECT BENEFITS

The Proposed Project for Quarrying Rough Stone at Chikkarampalayam Village aims to produce **9,67,173m<sup>3</sup>** Rough Stone over a period of 5 Years and Gravel 69,942m<sup>3</sup>. 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 FOR PROPOSED QUARRY

The Environment Monitoring Cell 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

It can be concluded from overall assessment of the impacts, in terms of positive and negative effects on various environmental components, that the mining activities will not have any adverse effect on the surrounding environment.

To mitigate any impacts due to the mining activities, a well-planned EMP and a detailed post project monitoring system is provided for regular monitoring and immediate rectification at site. Due to the cluster quarrying activities, socio economic conditions in and around the project site will be improved substantially. Hence, the Prior Environmental Clearance shall be granted at the earliest.