

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FOR OBTAINING

**Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification – 2006
Schedule Sl. No. 1 (a) (i): Mining Project**

“B1” CATEGORY (Cluster) – MINOR MINERAL – CLUSTER –

PATTA LAND - FRESH QUARRY

THIRU. A. SUBRAMANIAM ROUGH STONE AND GRAVEL QUARRY

CLUSTER EXTENT – 5.43.5 Ha

(2 Proposed Quarries+ 1 Existing Quarry)

PROJECT PROPONENT

Proponent Name	Project Location
Thiru. A. Subramaniam S/o. Agatheeswaran Gounder No.9/98, veerappagoundanur, Palarpathy Post, Kinathukadavu Taluk, Coimbatore District – 642 109	Extent: 1.21.50 ha S.F. Nos: 834/2(Part) Sokkanur Village, Kinathukadavu Taluk, Coimbatore District

Complied as per ToR obtained

File No. 11525 TOR Identification No. TO24B0108TN5781225N

Dated: 11.01.2025

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 & 38 Category 'B'

Certificate No: NABET/EIA/2225/RA0276



Phone: 0427-2431989,

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

Web: www.gemssalem.com

Laboratory

GLOBAL LAB AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Approved by ISO:9001:2015, NABL, FSSAI, Experts in QHSE

S.F No:92/3A2, Geetha Nagar, Alagapuram Pudur, Salem-636016.

Baseline Monitoring Period: March – May 2025

JUNE 2025

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

1. INTRODUCTION

The project proponent Thiru. A.Subramaniam has applied for Rough stone and Gravel quarry over an extent of 1.21.50 Ha in S.F.Nos. 834/2(Part) Sokkanur Village, Kinathukadavu Taluk & Coimbatore District.

- The proponent applied for Rough Stone and Gravel Quarry Lease Dated: 18.04.2023
- Precise Area Communication Letter was issued by the District Collector, Coimbatore R.C. No: 449/Mines/2023, Dated: 03.10.2024
- The Mining Plan was prepared by Recognized Qualified Person and approved by Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Coimbatore District, vide R.C.No: 449/Mines/2023, Dated: 30.10.2024
- 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/508194/2024 Dated: 26.11.2024
- The proposal was placed in 523rd SEAC meeting held on 27.12.2024 and the committee recommended for issue of ToR.
- The proposal was considered in 787th SEIAA meeting held on 08.01.2025 and issued ToR vide File No.11525 TOR Identification No. TO24B0108TN5781225N Dated:11.01.2025
- As per the EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments and OM The proposal falls in the B1 Category (Cluster quarries – 2 proposals, 1 Existing quarry forming Cluster Category {Total Extent of the Cluster is 5.43.5 Ha}- Cluster area calculated as per MoEF & CC Notification S.O. 2269(E) Dated 1st July 2016).

Based on the ToR Baseline Monitoring study has been carried out for one season (Post Monsoon) i.e., **March – May 2025** 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) to minimize those adverse impacts.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study is a process, used to identify the Environmental, Social and Economic impacts of a project prior to decision-making. EIA systematically examines both beneficial and adverse consequences of the proposed project and ensure that these impacts are considered during the project designing.

1.1 DETAILS OF PROJECT PROPONENT –

Name of the Project Proponent	Thiru. A. Subramaniam
Address	S/o. Agatheeswaran Gounder, No. 9/98, Veerappagoundanur, Palarpathy Post, Kinathukadavu Taluk, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu state – 642 109.
Mobile	+91 9447881598
Status	Proprietor

Source: Approved Mining Plan

1.2 QUARRY DETAILS WITHIN 500 M RADIUS

*PROPOSED QUARRIES				
CODE	Name of the Owner	S.F. Nos	Extent	Status
P1	Thiru.A.Subramaniam	834/2(Part), Sokkanur	1.21.5 ha	File No.11525 TOR Identification No. TO24B0108TN5903516N Dated:23.10.2024
P2	Thiru. K.Mahalingam	816(P), 818, 819/1, 822/1(P), 822/2A(P), 824/1A	3.01.0 ha	Application is in Process
Total			4.22.5 ha	

*EXISTING QUARRY				
CODE	Name of the Owner	S.F. No	Extent	Status
E-1	N.K.Ravikumar	860/1D(P) & 893/1	1.21.0 ha	29.10.2021 – 28.10.2026
TOTAL			1.21.0 ha	
EXPIRED QUARRIES				
CODE	Name of the Owner	S.F. No	Extent	Status
EX-1	Thiru.S.Kavitha	859/3A1	1.09.0 ha	22.01.2019 – 21.01.2024
EX-2	Thiru.A.Subramaniam	894	1.01.5 ha	25.01.2019 – 24.01.2024
ABANDONED QUARRY				
Nil				
TOTAL CLUSTER EXTENT*			5.43.5 Ha	

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

1.2 SALIENT FEATURES OF THE PROPOSAL

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Quarry	Thiru. A. Subramaniam Rough stone and Gravel quarry	
Land Ownership	It is a Own Patta land,	
SF No & Area (Ha)	834/2 (Part) & 1.21.50 ha	
Village,Taluk & District	Sokkanur Village, Kinathukadavu Taluk, Coimbatore District.	
Toposheet No	58 B/13	
Latitude between	10°48'23.73"N to 10°48'28.30"N	
Longitude between	76°54'22.54"E to 76°54'26.67"E	
Highest Elevation	268m AMSL	
Proposed Depth of Mining	37m (2m Gravel + 35m Rough Stone) below the ground level	
Geological Resources	Rough Stone in m ³	Gravel m ³
	4,28,730 m³	25,492 m³
Mineable Reserves	Rough Stone in m ³	Gravel m ³
	1,24,456 m³	17,174 m³
Year wise Production	Rough Stone in m ³	Gravel m ³
	1,24,456 m³	17,174 m³
Ultimate Pit Dimension	XY-AB - 100m (L) x 73m (W) x 37m (D) bgl X1Y1-CD - 33m (L) x 39m (W) x 15m (D) bgl	
Water Level in the surrounds area	68 m – 73m bgl	
Method of Mining	Opencast Mechanized Mining Method involving drilling and blasting	
Topography	The lease applied area is exhibits undulated topography. The area has gentle sloping towards Northern side. The altitude of the area is 268m (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	4 Nos
	Compressor	1 Nos
	Excavator with Bucket and Rock Breaker	1 No
	Tipper	2 Nos
	Water Sprinkling Tanker	1 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	25 Nos	
Project Cost	Rs. 36,73,000/-	

EMP cost	Rs. 3,80,000/-	
CER Cost	Rs. 5,00,000/-	
Nearby Water Bodies	Vari	70m SE
	Kuttai	100m North
	Odai	400m NW
	Kumitipathi Stream	3.7km NW
	Walayar Reservoir	6km NW
Greenbelt Development Plan	It is proposed to plant 610 Nos of trees in the safety barrier and village road.	
Proposed Water Requirement	2.5 KLD	
Nearest Habitation	780m SouthEast	

Source: Approved Mining Plan

1.3 STATUTORY DETAILS

SCREENING:

- The proponent applied for Rough Stone and Gravel Quarry Lease Dated: 18.04.2023
- Precise Area Communication Letter was issued by the District Collector, Coimbatore R.C. No: 449/Mines/2023, Dated: 03.10.2023
- The Mining Plan was prepared by Recognized Qualified Person and approved by Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Coimbatore District, vide R.C. No: 449/Mines/2023, Dated: 30.10.2023
- 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/508194/2024 Dated: 26.11.2024

SCOPING:

- The proposal was placed in 523rd SEAC meeting held on 27.12.2024 and the committee recommended for issue of ToR.
- The proposal was considered in 787th SEIAA meeting held on 08.01.2025 and issued ToR vide File No.11525 TOR Identification No. TO24B0108TN5781225N Dated:11.01.2025

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 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-544) Salem - Kochin Road – 7.15 km-NE State Highway (SH-26) K.G.Chavadi - Velanthavalam – 4.5 km-NW
Nearest Village	Veerappagoundanur – 930m SE
Nearest Town	Kinathukadavu – 12 km – East
Nearest Railway Station	Kinathukadavu Railway station – 12 Km – East
Nearest Airport	Coimbatore – 29 km – Northeast
Seaport	Kochi- 116 km – South West

Source: Survey of India Toposheet

2.2 LAND USE PATTERN OF THE LEASE APPLIED AREA

Description	Present area (Ha)	Area at the end of this quarrying period (Ha)
Area under Quarry	Nil	0.85.00
Infrastructure	Nil	0.01.00
Roads	Nil	0.01.00
Green Belt	Nil	0.34.50
Unutilized Area	1.21.50	Nil
Grand Total	1.21.50	1.21.50

Source: Approved Mining Plans of Proposal

2.3 OPERATIONAL DETAILS OF LEASE APPLIED AREA

PARTICULARS	DETAILS	
	Rough Stone (5Year Plan period)	Gravel in m ³
Geological Resources	4,28,730	25,492
Mineable Reserves	1,24,456	17,174
Production for five-year plan period	1,24,456	17,174
Mining Plan Period	5 years	
Number of Working Days	300 days	
Production per day	82	19
No of Lorry loads (12m ³ per load)	7	1
Total Depth of Mining	37m (2m Gravel + 35m Rough Stone) bgl	

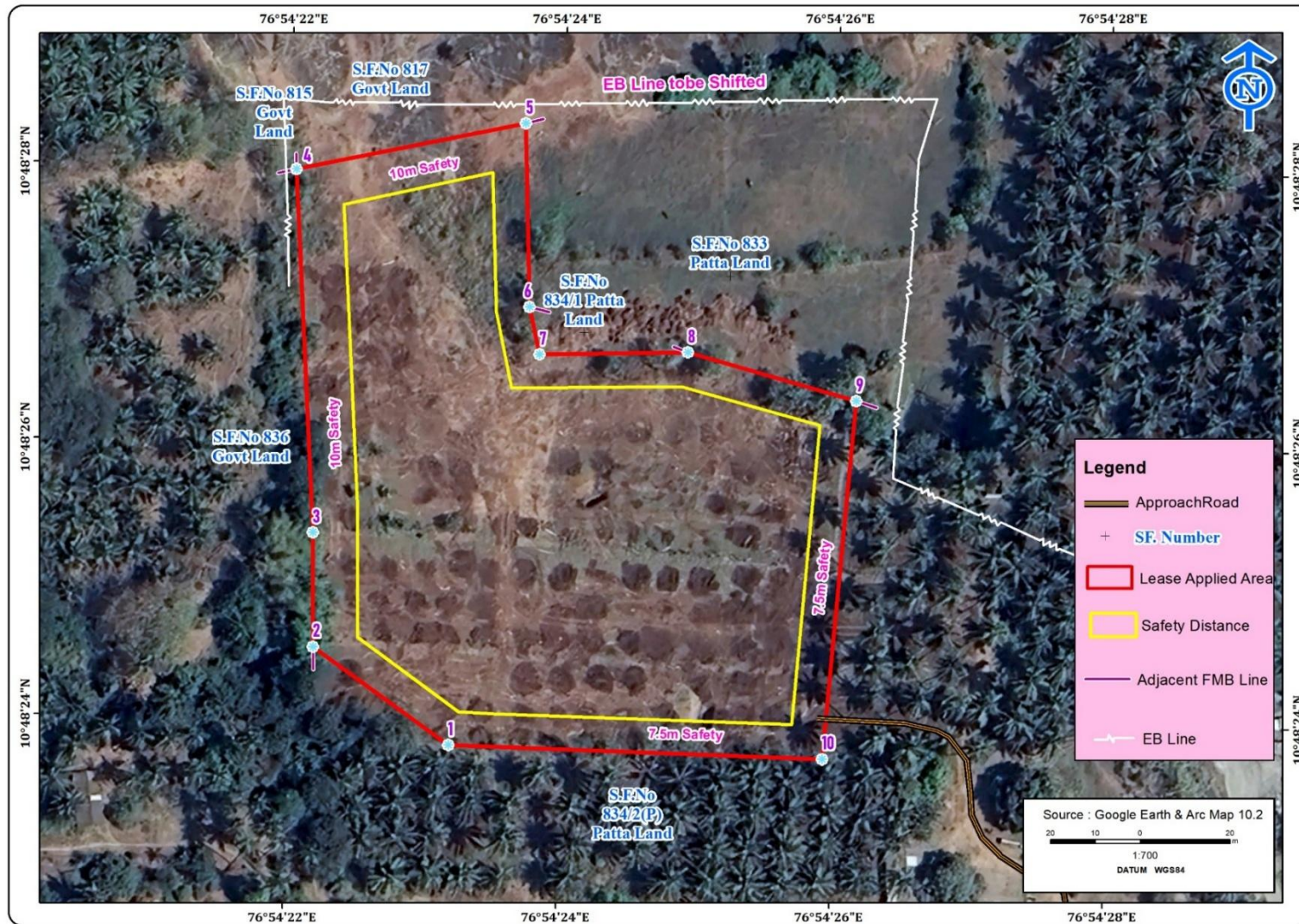
Source: proposed mining plan

2.4 OPERATIONAL DETAILS OF LEASE APPLIED AREA

Year	Rough Stone (m ³)	Gravel (m ³)
I	24,985	5,840
II	34,641	7,538
III	20,430	3,796
IV	21,850	-
V	22,550	-
Total	1,24,456	17,174

Source: proposed mining plan

FIGURE – 1: GOOGLE IMAGE OF THE PROJECT AREA



Source: Google Earth Imagery

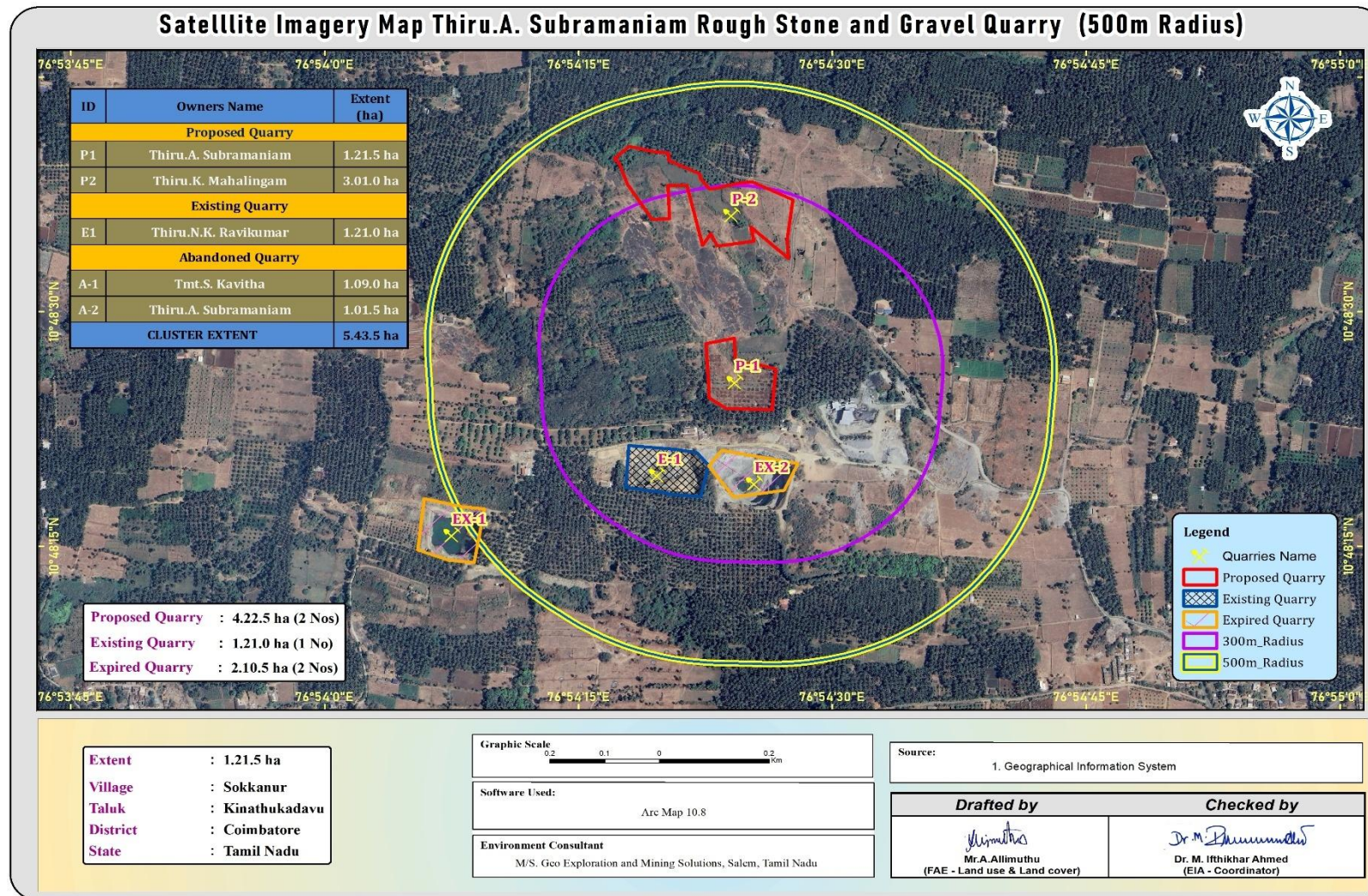
FIGURE – 2: SATELLITE IMAGERY CLUSTER QUARRIES

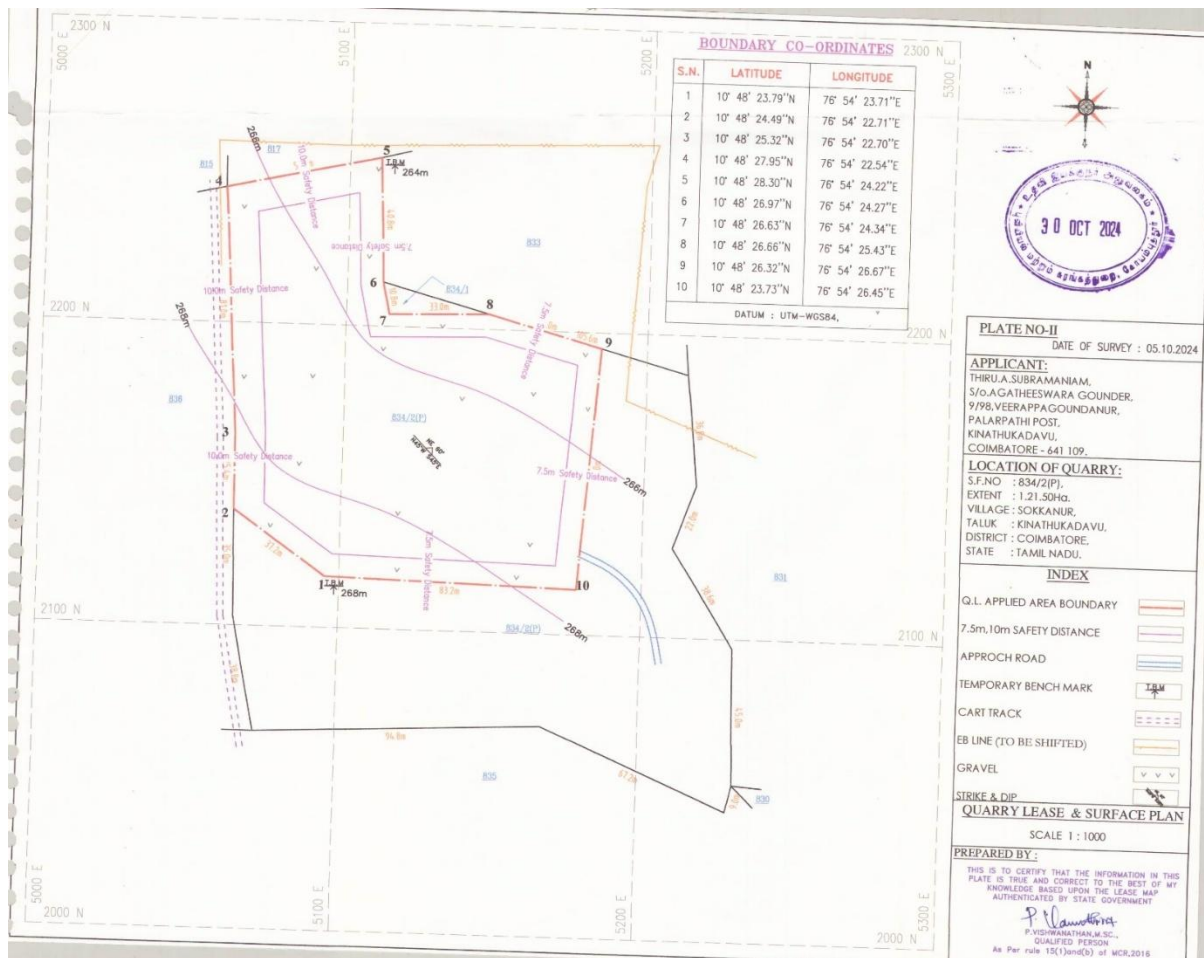
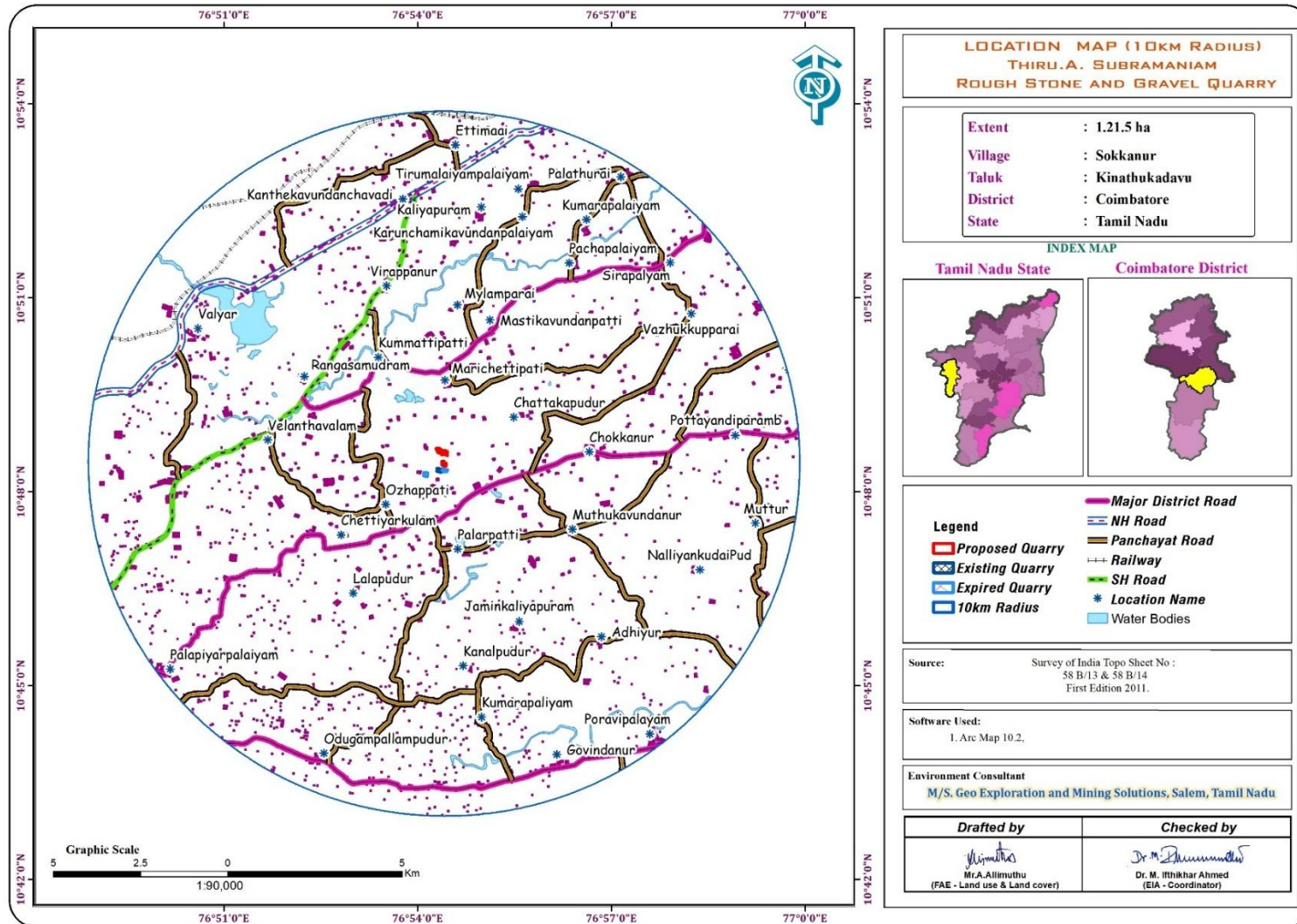
FIGURE 3: QUARRY LEASE PLAN / SURFACE PLAN

FIGURE – 4: IMAGE SHOWING SURFACE FEATURES AROUND 10 KM RADIUS

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	4	1.2m to 2.0m	Compressed air
2	Compressor	1	400psi	Diesel Drive
3	Excavator with Bucket / Rock Breaker	1	300 HP	Diesel Drive
4	Tipper	2	20 Tonnes	Diesel Drive
5	Water Sprinkling Tanker	1	3,000 litres	Diesel Drive

Source: Approved Mining Plan

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 principal 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.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Field monitoring studies to evaluate the base line status of the project site were carried out during March – May 2025 as per CPCB guidelines. Environmental Monitoring data has been collected with reference to proposed mine by Global Lab and Consultancy Services

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	PM10 PM2.5 SO2 NOX Fugitive Dust	24 hourly twice a week (March – May 2025)	7 (2 core & 5 buffer)	IS 5182 Part 1-23 National Ambient Air Quality Standards, CPCB
*Noise Levels	Ambient Noise	Hourly observation for 24 Hours per location	7 (2 core & 5 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 Quadrant & 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 Global Lab and Consultancy in association with GEMS

* All monitoring and testing have been carried out as per the Guidelines of CPCB and MoEF & CC.

3.2 LAND ENVIRONMENT

S.No	CLASSIFICATION	AREA_HA	AREA_%
BUILTUP			
1	Rural	865.88	2.72
2	Mining	37.63	0.12
AGRICULTURAL LAND			
3	Crop Land	10587.91	33.21
4	Plantation	13799.51	43.29
5	Fallow Land	4942.97	15.51
FOREST			
6	Forest	698.06	2.19
BARREN/WASTE LANDS			
7	Scrub Land	525.38	1.65
WETLANDS/ WATER BODIES			
8	WATER BODIES/LAKE/RIVER	421.27	1.32
TOTAL		31878.61	100.00

Interpretation

From the above table, pie diagram and land use map it is inferred that the majority of the land in the study area is Crop land, Plantation & Fallow land 92.91 % followed by Built-up Lands – 2.72%, Scrub & Forest land – 3.85 %, and Water bodies 1.32%.

The total mining area within the study area is 37.63 ha i.e., 0.12%. The cluster area of 5.43.5 ha contributes about 6.92% 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 1.05 – 1.15 g/cc. The Water Holding Capacity of the soil samples is found to be medium i.e. ranging from 38 – 47.2 %.

Chemical Characteristics –

- The nature of soil is slightly alkaline to strongly alkaline with pH range 7.38 – 8.02
- The available Nitrogen content range between 376 – 639.7 kg/ha
- The available Phosphorus content range between 15.6 – 24.1 mg/kg
- The available Potassium range between 0.87 – 1.34 mg/100g

3.4 WATER ENVIRONMENT

Surface Water

PH:

The pH value of surface water is about 8.12 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 Solids 1732 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 320 mg/l, Nitrates BDL (DL: 2.0)mg/l, while sulphates varied from 146 mg/l.

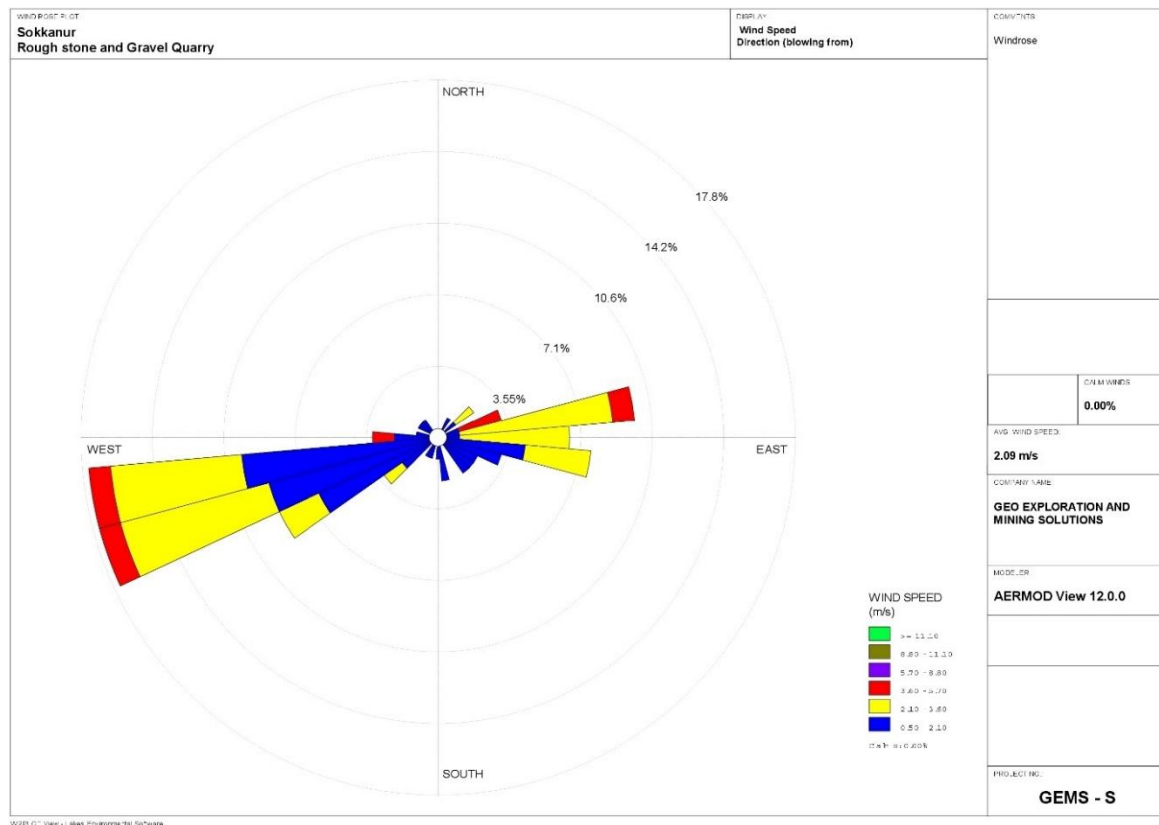
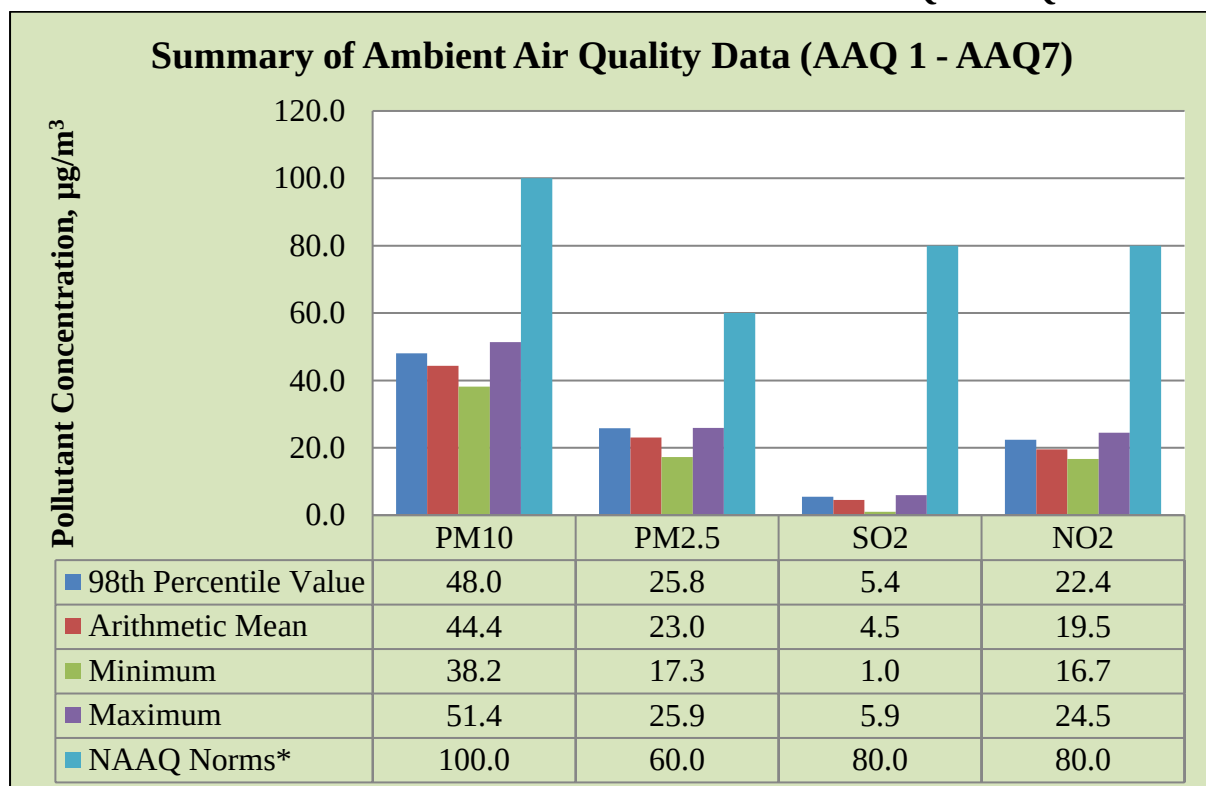
Ground Water

The pH of the water samples collected ranged from 7.26 – 7.78 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 760– 1450 mg/l in all samples. The Total hardness varied between 370 - 620 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. BAR DIAGRAM OF SUMMARY OF AAQ1 – AAQ7**

The results of ambient air quality monitoring for the period (March – May 2025) are presented in the report. Data has been compiled for three months.

Interpretations & Conclusion

As per monitoring data, PM₁₀ ranges from 38.2 µg/m³ to 51.4 µg/m³, PM_{2.5} data ranges from 17.3 µg/m³ to 25.9 µg/m³, SO₂ ranges from 1.0 µg/m³ to 5.9 µg/m³ and NO₂ data ranges from 16.7 µg/m³ to 24.5 µg/m³. 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 45.0 – 46.0 dB (A) Leq and during night time 34.3 – 35.0 dB (A) Leq. Noise levels recorded in buffer zone during day time were from 46.0 – 47.6 dB (A) Leq and during night time were from 35.1 – 36.8 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 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

- 1.21.50 Ha of the land will be under mining since the Permanent or temporary change on land use and land cover will occur
 - 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 cause the siltation of water course.
-

MITIGATION MEASURES

- The 1.21.50 Ha of the land will be converted into temporary reservoir which will full fill the water scarcity in the drought season and the nearby agriculture land will have benefitted by the supply of water
- About 610 Nos of trees will be planted in the lease area and approach road will retain the ecosystem
- The mining activity will be gradual confined in blocks and excavation will be undertaken progressively along with other mitigative measures like phase wise development in the production
- Construction of garland drains all around the quarry pits and construction of silt trap 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.,
- Fencing will be constructed before starting the mining operation and it will be maintained in 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.
- 2.5 KLD water will be utilized for the quarrying operation.

MITIGATION MEASURES

- Water for the quarrying operation such as sprinkling on haul roads, Greenbelt development will be sourced from the lower part of the mine pit which is specifically allotted to collect the rain water.
 - Garland drain, settling tank will be constructed along the proposed mining lease 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.
 - Periodic (every 6 months 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.
-

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 includes 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

Year	No. of trees proposed to be planted	Area to be covered in m ²	Name of the species
I	610	The safety zone along the boundary barrier and Village roads has been utilized for Greenbelt development.	Vembu, Poovarasu, Pungan, Naval etc.,

4.6 SOCIO ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

ANTICIPATED IMPACT

Employment generation due to the project will provide direct employment for about 19 persons.

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.

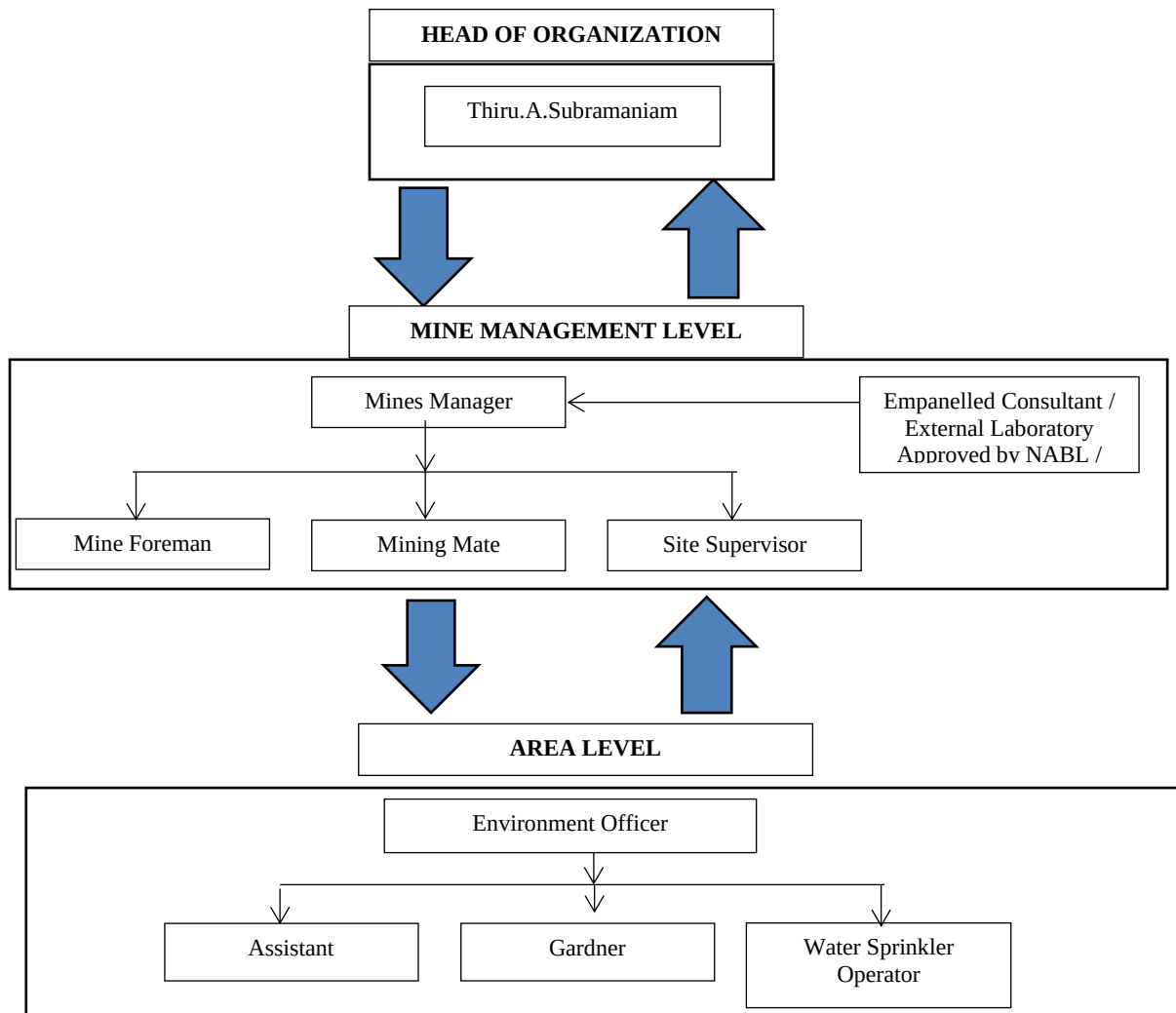
6. ENVIRONMENT MONITORING PROGRAM

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 PROPOSED 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. Risk Assessment is all about prevention of accidents and to take necessary steps to prevent it from happening.

7.2 DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

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 ³	Per Day Production in m ³	Number of Lorry Load Per Day
P1	1,24,456	24,891	82	7
E1	1,25,150	25,030	83	7
Grand Total	2,49,606	49,921	165	14
Quarry	Production for five-year plan period	Per Year Production in m ³	Per Day Production in m ³	Number of Lorry Load Per Day
P1	1,24,456	24,891	82	7
E1	1,25,150	25,030	83	7
Grand Total	2,49,606	49,921	165	14

CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION LOAD OF GRAVEL

Quarry	Production for five-year plan period	Per Year Production in m ³	Per Day Production in m ³	Number of Lorry Load Per Day
P1	17,174	5,724	19	1
E1	17,388	5,796	19	1
Grand Total	34,562	11,520	38	2

SOCIO ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM 2 MINES

Location ID	Project Cost	CER Cost
P1	Rs.36,73,000/-	Rs. 5,00,000/-
E1	Rs. 55,18,000/-	Rs 1,38,000 /-
Grand Total	Rs. 91,91,000/-	Rs. 6,38,000/-

EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FROM 2 MINES

Description	Employment
P1	25
E1	24
Grand Total	49

A total of 25 people will get employment due to 1 proposed mines in cluster and 24 people are already employed at 1 existing mines

GREENBELT DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS FROM MINES

Code	No of Trees proposed to be planted	Area to be covered	Name of the Species
P1	610	Safety barrier & village road	Vembu, Poovarasu, Pungan, Naval etc.,
E1	650		
Total	1,260		

8. PROJECT BENEFITS

The Proposed Project for Quarrying Rough Stone and gravel at Sokkanur Village aims to produce 1,24,456 m³ Rough Stone over a period of 5 Years and Gravel 17,174 m³ 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 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.
