# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF**

# DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT AND

# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

## FOR OBTAINING

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

"B1" CATEGORY - MINOR MINERAL - CLUSTER - NON-FOREST LAND

**CLUSTER EXTENT = 10.51.5 hectares** 

Mr. B. VENKATAKRISHNAN RED EARTH QUARRY

At

Kondalangkuppam Village, Vanur Taluk, Villuppuram District

ToR issued vide Letter No. SEIAA-TN/F.NO.9383/TOR-1279/2022 dated 08.10.2022.

## NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT PROPONENT

Name and Address	Extent & S.F.No.
Mr.B.Venkatakrishnan No.25, 2nd Cross Street, Kurumbapet, Housing Board, Puducherry – 605009	1.53.5 ha & 70/2, 70/3, 70/4 70/5A,71/3

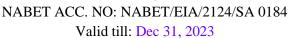
## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT**

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL LAB**

## EKDANT ENVIRO SERVICES (P) LIMITED

NABL Accredited & Recognised Laboratory

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Baseline Study Period – December 2022 - February, 2023

**APRIL-2023** 

#### **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

As the proposed red earth mining project, known as P1 falls within the 500 m radius cluster of quarries with the total extent of >5 ha (i.e., 10.51.5 ha), it is classified under category "B1" and requires submission of EIA report for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) after conducting public hearing. The cluster contains only two proposed projects, known as P1 and P2 and three Expired Projects known as EX1, EX2 and EX3. All the projects mentioned above have been taken for cluster extent calculation as per MoEF & CC Notification S.O. 2269 (E) Dated 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016, as shown in Figure 1.1.

This EIA draft discusses the cumulative impacts of 2 proposed projects in a cluster on the environment and provides a detailed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to minimize the adverse impacts of those projects situated in the cluster falling in Kondalangkuppam Village, Vanur Taluk, Villuppuram District and Tamil Nadu State. In compliance with TOR obtained vide Letter No. SEIAA-TN/F.NO.9383/TOR-1279/2022 dated 08.10.2022. This EIA report has been prepared for the project proponent Mr. B. Venkatakrishnan applied for red earth quarry lease in the patta land falling in S.F.Nos.70/2, 70/3, 70/4, 70/5A & 71/3 over an extent of 1.53.5 ha in Kondalangkuppam Village, Vanur Taluk, Villuppuram District and Tamil Nadu. This EIA report takes into account the red earth quarry within the cluster of 500 m radius from the periphery of the proposed project site. The cluster contains two proposed projects, known as P1, P2 and three Expired Projects known as EX1, EX2 and EX3. All the projects mentioned above have been taken for cluster extent calculation as per MoEF & CC Notification S.O. 2269 (E) dated 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016. The total extent of all the quarries is 10.51.5 ha, also known as the cluster extent. The quarries involved in the calculation of cluster extent are shown in Figure 1.1.

**Table 1.1 Details of Project Proponent** 

Name of the Project Proponent	Mr.B.Venkatakrishnan	
	S/o. Balaram	
Address	No.25, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cross Street,	
Address	Kurumbapet, Housing Board,	
	Puducherry – 605009	
Status	Proprietor	

Table 1.2 Details of Quarries within the Cluster Area of 500 m Radius

	Proposed Quarries				
Code	Name of the owner	Status			
		70/2, 70/3, 70/4			
P1	B. Venkatakrishnan	70/5A,71/3	1.53.5	Proposed Area	
		Kondalangkuppam			
		70/5B, 70/7B, 70/6,			
P2	S. Devamani	88/2, 69/2, 70/8	3.05.5	Applied Area	
		Kondalangkuppam			
		<b>Expired Quarries</b>			
		60/2		13.03.2018	
EX1	P. Senjivel	Kondalangkuppam	1.17.0	to	
				12.03.2020	
		85/1, 85/2, 85/3,		23.03.2018	
EX2	A. Arikrishanan	85/5, 89/2, 91/1B, 91/2	3.54.0	То	
		Kondalangkuppam		22.03.2020	
		194/2B1, 194/2B2,		25.02.2020	
EX3	Tmt. A. Gunaselvi	194/3B, 194/4A	1.21.50	to	
		Kondalangkuppam		24.02.2022	
	Total Cluster Extent 10.51.5				

# Source:

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

Dated:01.07.2016.

i. DD Letter: Rc.No.A/G & M/442/2021, Dated:13.06.2022.

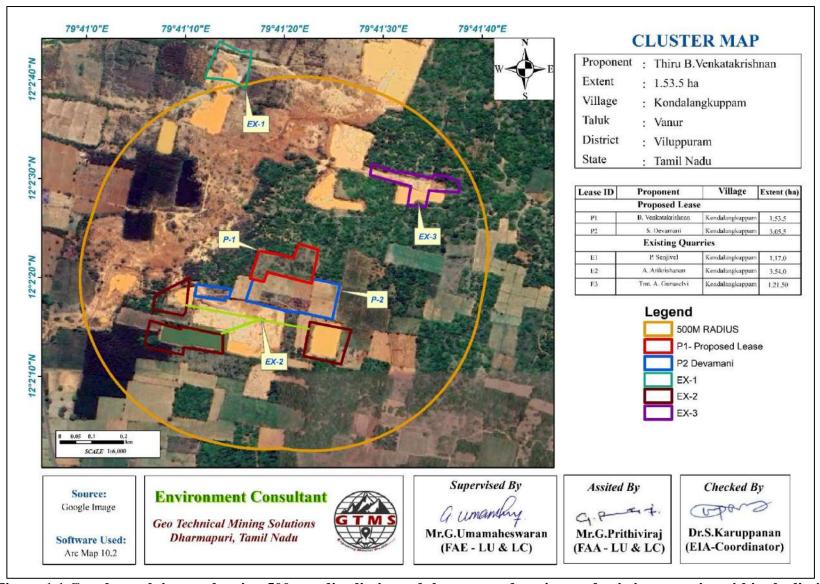


Figure 1.1 Google earth image showing 500m radius limits and the proposed project and existing quarries within the limit

#### **CHAPTER II**

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project deals with excavation of red earth quarry which is primarily used in construction projects. The method adopted for red earth quarry excavation is an open cast semi-mechanized mining method. The proposed project area is located between latitudes from 12°02'19.41"N to 12°02'23.38"N and Longitudes from 79°41'16.53"E to 79°41'23.40"E in Kondalangkuppam Village, Vanur Taluk, Villuppuram District. The project site is a Patta land with the extent of 1.53.5 ha owned by the project proponent. The proponent had applied for quarry lease on 22.11.2021 to extract red earth and obtained the precise area communication letter issued by Department of Geology and Mining, Villuppuram vide Roc.No.B/G & M/09/2022 dated 06.06.2022. Based on the precise area communication letter, mining plan was prepared. The mining plan thus prepared was approved by Deputy Director of Geology and Mining, Villuppuram (Rc.No.A/G&M/442/2021 dated 13.06.2022).

According to the approved mining plan, about 23004 m<sup>3</sup> of red earth will be mined up to the depth of 2 m BGL in two years. To achieve the estimated production, 1 excavator and 3 tippers will be deployed. To operate the machineries about 5 persons will be employed. At the end of the quarry life, the dimension of the ultimate pit will be 67 m\*92 m\*2 m and about 1.15.0 ha of land is used for quarrying; about 0.02.5 ha of land is unutilized. about 0.25.0 ha of land will have been green belt; about 0.11.0 ha of land will be used for Drainage and settling tank and the rest will be used for road and infrastructures.

The final mine closure plan shows that about Rs. 521900 with the annual recurring cost of Rs. 46050 will be spent towards mine closure. Boundary coordinates of corner pillars of the project site and accessibility details to the location of the project site are given in Tables 2.1 & 2.2 respectively. The lease area of the project site overlaid on Google earth image is shown in Figure 2.1.

**Table 2.1 Corner Geographic Coordinates of Proposed Project** 

Pillar ID	Latitude	Longitude
1	12°2'22.83"N	79°41'23.40"E
2	12°2'20.05"N	79°41'22.87"E
3	12°2'19.41"N	79°41'22.76"E
4	12°2'20.53"N	79°41'18.29"E
5	12°2'19.58"N	79°41'17.93"E
6	12°2'19.90"N	79°41'16.53"E

7	12°2'22.67"N	79°41'17.43"E
8	12°2'22.42"N	79°41'18.97"E
9	12°2'21.98"N	79°41'20.91"E
10	12°2'23.38"N	79°41'21.49"E

**Table 2.2 Site Connectivity to the Project Area** 

Type of Features	Name/Location	Distance (km)	Direction
Nearest Roadways	SH - 136	1.86 km	Е
Nearest Villages	Parankani	1.19 km	N
	Kondalangkuppam	1.12 km	SW
Nearest Villages	Ranganathapuram	1.80 km	Е
	Thollamur	2.0km	NW
Nearest Airport	Cuddalore	36 km	NE
Nearest Seaport	Chennai	141.5 km	NE

## 2.3 DETAILS OF RESERVES

Reserves were calculated using cross-section method after leaving the safety distance as shown in Figure 2.2. Details of resources and reserves of the project are given in Table 2.3.

Table 2.3 Estimated Resources and Reserves of the Project

Resource Type	Red Earth (m <sup>3</sup> )
Geological Resource in m <sup>3</sup>	30712
Mineable Reserves in m <sup>3</sup>	23004
Proposed production for 2 years m <sup>3</sup>	23004

Based on the year wise development and production plan and sections, as shown in Figures 2.3 the year wise production results are given in Table 2.4.

**Table 2.4 Year-Wise Production Details** 

Year	Red Earth (m³)
I	12148
II	10856
Total	23004

## 2.3 LAND USE PATTERN

Land use and land cover information for the proposed project site has been given in Table 2.5.

Table 2.5 Land use data at present, during scheme of mining, and at the end of mine life

Description	Present Area (ha)	Area at the end of life of quarry (ha)
Area under Mining	Nil	1.15.0
Infrastructure	Nil	0.01.0
Roads	Nil	0.04.0
Green Belt	Nil	0.25.0
Unutilized area	1.53.5	0.02.5
Drainage & Settling tank	Nil	0.06.0
Total	1.53.5	1.53.5

Source: Approved mining plan

# 2.4 METHOD OF MINING

The quarrying operation is proposed to be carried out by Open -Cast Semi-Mechanized mining method.

# 2.5 PROPOSED MACHINERY DEPLOYMENT

List of machineries proposed for the quarrying operation is given in Table 2.6.

**Table 2.6 Proposed Machinery Deployments** 

S. No.	Туре	No.of Unit	Capacity	Make	Motive Power
1	Excavator	1		-	Diesel Drive
Haulage & Transport Equipment					
2	Tipper	3	-	-	Diesel Drive

**Table 2.7 Fuel Requirement Details** 

Fuel Requirement for Excavator				
Details	Red Earth	Total Diesel		
	(23004 m <sup>3</sup> )	(litre)		
Average Rate of Fuel Consumption (l/hr)	10			
Working Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> /hr)	60			
Time Required (hours)	383			
Total Diesel Consumption for 2 years (litre)	3834	3834		
Fuel Requirement for Tipper				
Average Rate of Fuel Consumption/Trip (litre)	20			
Carrying Capacity in m <sup>3</sup>	6			
Number of Trips / days	7.1			

Number of Trips / 2 years	3834	
Total Diesel Consumption for 2 years (litre)	76680	76680
Total Diesel Consumption by Excavator and	80514	

**Table 2.8 Capital Requirement Details** 

S. No.	Description	Cost (Rs.)
1	Fixed Asset	640000
2	Operational cost	500000
3	EMP	125000
4	Expenditure cost	110000
	Total Project Cost	13,75,000/-

Source: Approved Mining Plan

## 2.5 CONCEPTUAL MINE CLOSURE PLAN

- Mine closure is a process of returning a disturbed site to its natural state for other productive uses to minimize adverse effects on the environment or threats to humans' health and safety.
- ❖ The objective of the mine closure plan is to transform quarries to be physically safe to humans and animals, geo-technically stable, geo-chemically non-polluting, and non-contaminating.
- ❖ At the end of mining life, the mine pit will act as an artificial reservoir for collecting rain water and will help to meet the water demand during drought season.
- ❖ After mine closure, the greenbelt will be developed along the safety barrier and over top benches. Water from the pit will be used to the greenbelt development and maintenance. Budgetary provision for mine closure is provided in Table 2.9.

**Table 2.9 Mine Closure Budget** 

Activity	Capital Cost	Recurring
Tienviey	Cupiui Cost	Cost/Annum
307 plants inside the lease area	61400	9210
461 plants outside the lease area	138150	13815
Wire Fencing	307000	15350
Renovation of Garland Drain	15350	7675
Total	521900	46050

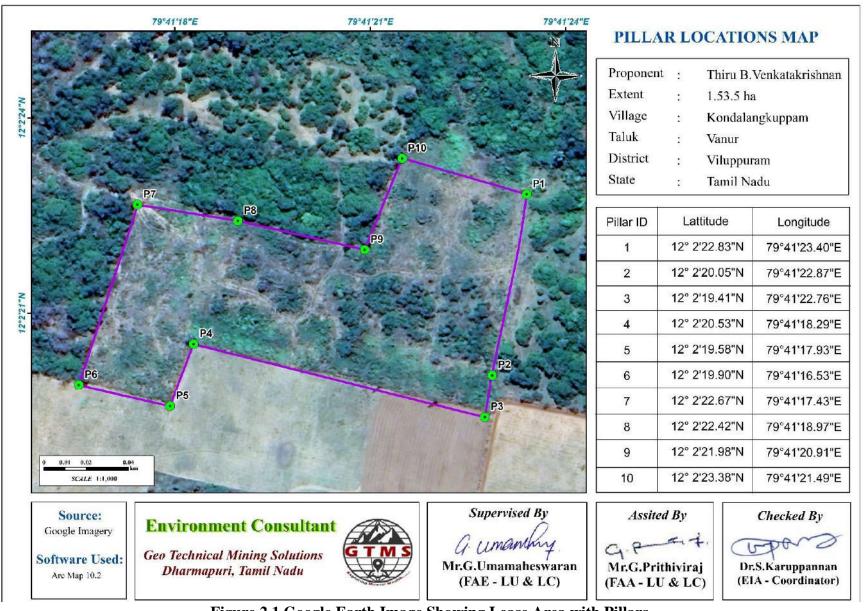


Figure 2.1 Google Earth Image Showing Lease Area with Pillars

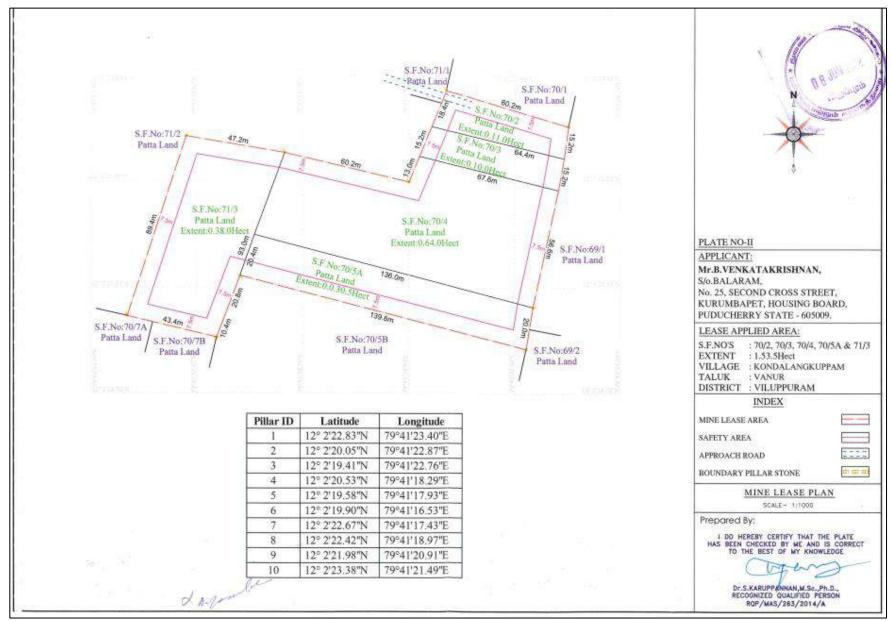


Figure 2.2 Mine Lease Plan

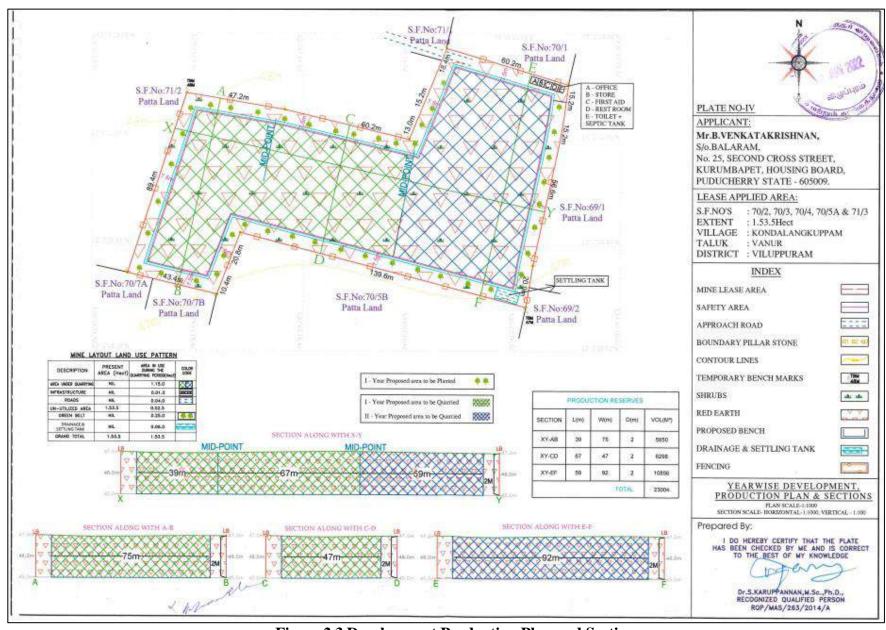


Figure 2.3 Development, Production Plan and Sections

#### **CHAPTER III**

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

## 3.0 INTRODUCTION

Field monitoring studies were carried out to evaluate the existing environmental condition of the project site during **December 2022 - February, 2023** as per CPCB guidelines. Environmental baseline data were collected by an NABL accredited and MoEF notified Excellence Laboratory for the environmental attributes including soil, water, noise, air and by FAEs for ecology and biodiversity, traffic, and socio-economy.

## 3.1 LAND ENVIRONMENT

Land use pattern of the area of 5 km radius was studied using Sentinel II imagery. LULC types and their extent are given in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Land Use / Land Cover Statistics for the Area of 5 km Radius

S. No.	Classification	Area (ha)	Area (%)
1	Barren Rocky/ Stony Waste	190.73	2.51
2	Crop Land	2640.19	34.72
3	Dense Forest	1027.60	13.52
4	Fallow Land	15.22	0.20
5	Land with or without scrub	358.51	4.72
6	Mining/Industrial lands	113.19	1.49
7	Plantations	2671.05	35.13
8	Settlements	240.88	3.17
9	Water Bodies	345.87	4.55
	Total	7603.25	100

Source: Sentinel II Satellite Imagery

## 3.2 SOIL ENVIRONMENT

Seven locations were selected for soil sampling based on soil types, vegetative cover, and industrial & residential activities including infrastructure facilities. The physical and chemical characteristic results of soil samples are provided below.

## Physical Characteristics

The soil samples in the study area show loamy textures varying between silty clay loam, silty loam and sandy loam. pH of the soil varies from 7.1 to 7.5 indicating slightly acidic to slightly alkaline nature. Electrical conductivity of the soil varies from 217 to 287  $\mu$ s/cm. Bulk density ranges between 1.01 and 1.53 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

#### **Chemical Characteristics**

Calcium ranges between 78 and 156 mg/kg. Magnesium ranges between 18.8 and 29.2 mg/kg. Potassium ranges between 17.34 and 34.90 mg/kg. Iron content ranges between 78.7-172.4 mg/kg. Organic matter content ranges between 0.98 and 1.41 %.

#### Soil Erosion

Soil erosion map shows that:

- Soil erosion is very low in the proposed lease area
- Low to moderate soil erosion is in south side of the lease area.

#### 3.3 WATER ENVIRONMENT

## Surface Water

Sangarabarani River is the prominent surface water resources present in the study area. This river was ephemeral in nature, which convey water only after rainfall events. The proposed project area is located in 4.63 (Thiruvakkarai) km WSW of Sangarabarani River and 3.72 (Kaikilampattu) km SW of Sangarabarani River. Two surface water sample, known as SW01 and SW02 were collected from the Sangarabarani River in Thiruvakkarai (4.63 km) and Sangarabarani River in Kaikilampattu (3.72 km), to assess the baseline water quality. Result for surface water sample in the indicate that the physical, chemical and biological parameters, and heavy metals are within permissible limits in comparison with standards of IS10500:2012.

#### **Ground Water Resources**

Groundwater in the study area occurs in the crystalline rocks of Archaean age and recent alluvium. The movement of the groundwater is controlled by the intensity of weathering and fracturing of crystalline rocks. Dug wells and bore wells are the most common ground water abstraction structures in the area. However, in dry season, people in the study area heavily rely on bore wells for their domestic and agriculture purpose. Six groundwater samples, known as OW01, OW02, BW01, BW02, BW03 and BW04 collected from bore wells and open wells were analysed for physico-chemical conditions, heavy metals and bacteriological contents in order to assess baseline quality of ground water. Results for ground water samples indicate that the physical, chemical and biological parameters, and heavy metals are within permissible limits in comparison with standards of IS10500:2012.

## Groundwater Levels and Flow Direction

Data regarding groundwater elevations were collected from 9 open wells and 9 bore wells at various locations within 2 km radius around the proposed project sites for the period from March through May 2022 (Pre-Monsoon Season) and from December 2022 through February, 2023 (Post Monsoon Season). Average depths to the static water table in open wells range from 11.3 to 15.9 m BGL in pre monsoon and 6.5 to 10.5 m BGL in post monsoon. The average depths to static potentiometric surface in bore wells for the period of December 2022 through February, 2023 (Post Monsoon Season) vary from 55.10 to 60.0 m and from 60.2 to 70.0 m for the period of March through May, 2022 (Pre-Monsoon Season). The bore well

groundwater for the post- and pre-monsoon seasons flows towards the bore well number 3. It is located in South Southwest direction of the proposed project site.

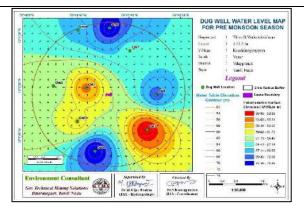


Figure 3.1 Open Well Static Groundwater Elevation Map Showing the Direction of Groundwater Flow During Pre-Monsoon Season

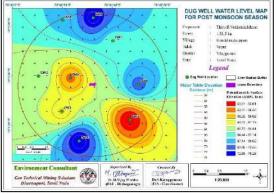


Figure 3.2 Open Well Static Groundwater Elevation Map Showing the Direction of Groundwater Flow During Post-Monsoon Season

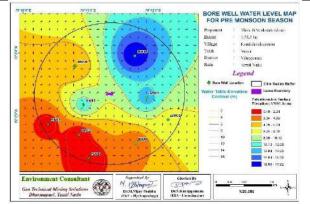


Figure 3.3 Borewell Static Groundwater Elevation Map Showing the Direction of Groundwater Flow During Pre-Monsoon Season

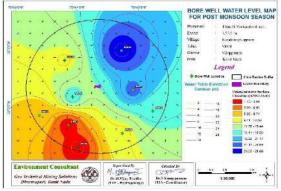


Figure 3.4 Borewell Static Groundwater Elevation Map Showing the Direction of Groundwater Flow During Post-Monsoon Season

## 3.4 AIR ENVIRONMENT

The existing ambient air quality of the area is important for evaluating the impact of mining activities on the ambient air quality. The baseline studies on air environment include identification of specific air pollutants and their existing levels in ambient air. The ambient air quality in the study area of 5 km radius around the proposed quarry sites provides the baseline ambient air quality information.

## **Ambient Air Quality**

As per the monitoring data,  $PM_{2.5}$  ranges from 15.2  $\mu g/m^3$  to 19.3  $\mu g/m^3$ ;  $PM_{10}$  from 32.3  $\mu g/m^3$  to 36.9  $\mu g/m^3$ ;  $SO_2$  from 6.9  $\mu g/m^3$  to 10.0  $\mu g/m^3$ ;  $NO_x$  from 13.0  $\mu g/m^3$  to 18.9  $g/m^3$ . The concentration levels of the pollutants fall within the acceptable limits of NAAQS prescribed by CPCB.

## 3.5 NOISE ENVIRONMENT

The noise level in core zone was 39.2 dB (A) Leq during day time and 35.6 dB(A) Leq during night time. Noise levels recorded in buffer zone during day time varied from 40.4 to 46.8 dB (A) Leq and during night time from 35.8 to 41.6 dB (A) Leq. Thus, the noise level for industrial and residential area meets the requirements of CPCB.

#### 3.6 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

Biological assessment of the site was done to identify ecologically sensitive areas and whether there are any rare, endangered, endemic or threatened (REET) species of flora & fauna in the core area as well its buffer zone to be impacted. The study has also been designed to suggest suitable mitigation measures, if necessary, for protection of wildlife habitats and conservation of REET species if any. The study found that there is no endemic, endangered migratory fauna found in the area. This area is not also a migratory path of any faunal species. Hence, this small mining operation over short period of time will not have any significant impact on the surrounding flora and fauna.

## 3.7 SOCIO ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Socio-economic study is an essential part of environmental study. It is a measure of an individual's or family's or group of people's economic and social position based on education, income, health, and occupation. Socio-economic most important determinant of livelihoods as levels of knowledge, skill and income conditions which mean for their living. The study 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 employment to the local people there by improving the employment opportunity in the area, which will in turn improve the social standards.

## 3.7 TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENT

**Table 3.2 Traffic Survey Locations** 

Tuble 5.2 ITallie But vey Educations										
<b>Station Code</b>	Road Name	Distance and Direction	Type of Road							
TS1	Village Road	0.96 Km-SW	Village Road							
TS2	Mayilam-pondicherry	2.9 Km-NNW	Mayilam-pondicherry							

Source: On-site monitoring by GTMS FAE & TM

**Table 3.3 Existing Traffic Volume** 

Station code	HN	ΛV	LN	1V	2/3 W	heelers	Total PCU
Station code	No	PCU	No	PCU	No	PCU	Total PCU
TS1	35	105	42	42	69	35	182
TS2	98	294	51	51	102	51	396

Source: On-site monitoring by GTMS FAE & TM

**Table 3.4 Red Soil Transportation Requirement** 

Transportation of red earth per day							
Capacity of trucks	No. of Trips per day	Volume in PCU					
15 tonnes	7	21					

Source: Approved Mining Plan

**Table 3.5 Summary of Traffic Volume** 

Route	Existing traffic volume in PCU	Incremental traffic due to the project	Total traffic volume	Hourly Capacity in PCU as per IRC – 1960guidelines
Village Road	182	21	203	1200
Mayilam- Pondicherry	396	21	417	1200

Source: On-site monitoring analysis summary by GTMS FAE & TM

# 3.8 SITE SPECIFIC FEATURES

Table 3.6 Details of Environmentally Sensitive Ecological Features in the Study Area

S. No	Sensitive Ecological Features	Name	Areal Distance in km from cluster
1	National Park /	None	Nil within 10 km radius
1	Wild life Sanctuaries	None	Nil within 10 km radius
2	Reserve Forest	None	Nil within 10 km radius
3	Lakes/Reservoirs/	Gingee River	3.62 km S
3	Dams/Streams/Rivers	Ossudu Lake	8.6 km SE
4	Tiger Reserve/Elephant Reserve/ Biosphere Reserve	Ossudu Bird Sanctuary	8.6 km SE
5	Critically Polluted  Areas	None	Nil within 10 km radius
6	Mangroves	None	Nil within 10 km radius
7	Mountains/Hills	None	Nil within 10 km radius
8	Notified Archaeological Sites	None	Nil within 10 km radius
9	Industries/ Thermal Power Plants	None	Nil within 10 km radius
10	Defence Installation	None	Nil within 10 km radius

Source: Survey of India Toposheet

## **CHAPTER IV**

# ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES 4.0 INTRODUCTION

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 for sustainable resource extraction.

#### 4.1 LAND ENVIRONMENT

## **Anticipated Impact**

- ❖ Permanent impact on mineral resources due to removal of 23004 m³ of Red Earth
- ❖ Permanent or temporary change on land use and land cover
- Change in topography of the mine lease area
- ❖ Problems to agricultural land and human habitations due to dust, and noise caused by movement of heavy vehicles
- ❖ Degradation of the aesthetic environment of the core zone due to quarrying
- Soil erosion and sediment deposition in the nearby water bodies due to earthworks during the rainy season
- ❖ Siltation of water course due to wash off from the exposed working area

## **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 minimize 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**

## **Anticipated Impact**

This project does not result in any impact on the soil of the project site as topsoil is neither removed from the project site nor preserved in the safety margin area. However, some of the common mitigation measures have been discussed in the following sections to protect the immediate soil environment surrounding the lease area.

## Soil Erosion

Low to moderate soil erosion is observed in the south side of the lease area

## Mitigation Measures

- ❖ Soil erosion is very low in the proposed lease area. Therefore, the lease area will not cause soil erosion in any way. but Run-off diversion − Garland drains will be constructed 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.

## **4.3 WATER ENVIRONMENT**

## **Anticipated Impact**

- ❖ As the water required for the mining operations, obtained from the approved water supplying agency, the project does not develop any abstraction structures in the lease area. Therefore, no impact responsible for the water table declination is anticipated.
- ❖ Surface and ground water resources may be contaminated due to mine pit water discharge, domestic sewage, waste water from vehicle washing, washouts from surface exposure or working areas, discharge of oil & grease, and suspended solids due to waste

from washing of machineries. To address this impact, some of the important mitigation measures is provided as below.

## Mitigation Measures

- ❖ Garland drainage system and settling tank will be constructed along the proposed mining lease area. The garland drainage will be connected to settling tank and sediments will be trapped in the settling tanks and only clear water will be discharged to the natural drainage
- \* Rainwater from the mining pits will be collected in sump and will be allowed to store and pumped out to surface settling tank of 15 m x 10 m x 3 m 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 judicially utilize the rainwater as part of rainwater harvesting system.
- ❖ The water collected will be reused during storm for dust suppression and greenbelt development within the mines.
- ❖ Interceptor traps/oil separators will be installed to remove oils and greases. Water from the tipper wash-down facility and machinery maintenance yard will be passed through interceptor traps/oil separators prior to its reuse.
- Flocculating or coagulating agents will be used to assist in the settling of suspended solids during monsoon seasons.
- Periodic (every 6 month once) analysis of ground water quality of quarry pit water and ground water of nearby villages will be conducted.
- ❖ Domestic sewage from site office and 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 (once every 6 months) and analysing the quality of water in open well, bore wells and surface water.

## **4.4 AIR ENVIRONMENT**

## **Anticipated Impact**

❖ Emission of air pollutants such as particular matter (PM), gases such as sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen at various stages of activities such as excavation and transportation of materials. The rate of emission and the incremental concentration of pollutants is estimated in the following sections before providing mitigation measures.

Table 4.1 Incremental and Resultant PM<sub>2.5</sub>

	re		PM2.5 CO	ncentration	s(μg/m³)	inst lard	Į.	
Station ID	Distance to core area (km)	Direction	Baseline	Predicted	Total	Comparison against air quality standard (60 µg/m³)	Magnitude of change (%)	Significance
AAQ1			20.6	5.87	26.47		28.50	
AAQ2	1.80	SW	15.8	5	20.8	75	31.65	t
AAQ3	4.74	SW	16.7	0.5	17.2	ndar	2.99	ïcan
AAQ4	3.95	NW	19.8	0.5	20.3	, Sta	2.53	ignif
AAQ5	4.17	SSE	17.9	0	17.9	Below Standard	0.00	Not Significant
AAQ6	1.91	ENE	14.8	0	14.8	В	0.00	Z
AAQ7	3.78	NNE	15.4	0	15.4		0.00	

Table 4.2 Incremental and Resultant PM<sub>10</sub>

	PM <sub>10</sub> concentrations (μg/m <sup>3</sup> )				$(\mu g/m^3)$	against andard m³)	J	4)
Station ID	Distance to core area (km)	Direction	Baseline	Predicted	Total	Comparison against air quality standard (100 µg/m³)	Magnitude of change (%)	Significance
AAQ1			37.7	9.18	46.88		24.35	
AAQ2	1.80	SW	33.3	5	38.3	þ	15.02	t.
AAQ3	4.74	SW	35.8	1	36.8	ndar	2.79	fican
AAQ4	3.95	NW	38.0	0.5	38.5	/ Sta	1.32	ignii
AAQ5	4.17	SSE	33.2	0	33.2	Below Standard	0.00	Not Significant
AAQ6	1.91	ENE	31.2	0	31.2	<u> </u>	0.00	
AAQ7	3.78	NNE	33.7	0	33.7		0.00	

Table 4.3 Incremental & Resultant SO<sub>2</sub>

	Dis		SO <sub>2</sub> concentrations (μg/m <sup>3</sup> )		(μg/m <sup>3</sup> )	nst .rd		
Station ID			Baseline	Predicted	Total	Comparison against air quality standard (80 µg/m³)	Magnitude of change (%)	Significance
AAQ1			11.5	5.03	16.53		43.74	
AAQ2	1.80	SW	7.5	1	8.5	_	13.33	
AAQ3	4.74	SW	7.9	0.5	8.4	ndarc	6.33	ïcant
AAQ4	3.95	NW	9.6	0.5	10.1	v Staı	5.21	ignif
AAQ5	4.17	SSE	7.8	0	7.8	Below Standard	0.00	Not Significant
AAQ6	1.91	ENE	6.8	0	6.8	Н	0.00	<u> </u>
AAQ7	3.78	NNE	7.7	0	7.7		0.00	

**Table 4.4 Incremental & Resultant NO**x

	NOx concentrations(μg/m³)				$(\mu g/m^3)$	nst		
Station ID	Distance to core area (km)	Direction	Baseline	Predicted	Total	Comparison against air quality standard (80 µg/m³)	Magnitude of change (%)	Significance
AAQ1			19.5	2.87	22.37		14.72	
AAQ2	1.80	SW	15.8	1	16.8	g G	6.33	<u>.</u>
AAQ3	4.74	SW	16.8	0.5	17.3	ndar	2.98	ican
AAQ4	3.95	NW	17.9	0.5	18.4	, Sta	2.79	ignif
AAQ5	4.17	SSE	16.0	0	16	Below Standard	0.00	Not Significant
AAQ6	1.91	ENE	14.2	0	14.2	<u> </u>	0.00	
AAQ7	3.78	NNE	15.0	0	15		0.00	1

The values of cumulative concentration i.e., background + incremental concentration of pollutant in all the receptor locations are still within the prescribed NAAQ limits without effective mitigation measures. By adopting suitable mitigation measures, the pollutant levels in the atmosphere can be controlled further.

## Mitigation Measures

## Haul Road and 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 to < 20 km/hr to avoid generation of dust
- ❖ Water sprinkling on haul roads and 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 and reduces pollution.
- ❖ The un-metaled haul roads will be compacted weekly before being put into use.
- ❖ Overloading of tippers will be avoided to prevent spillage.
- ❖ It will be ensured that all transportation vehicles carry a valid PUC certificate.
- ❖ Haul roads and service roads will be graded to clear accumulation of loose materials.

#### Green Belt

- ❖ Planting of trees all along mine haul roads outside the lease and regular grading of haul roads will be practiced to prevent the generation of dust due to movement of tractors/tippers.
- ❖ Green belt of adequate width will be developed around the project site.

## Occupational Health

- ❖ Dust mask will be provided to the workers and their use will be strictly monitored.
- Annual medical checkups, trainings and campaigns will be arranged to ensure awareness about importance of wearing dust masks among all mine workers and tipper drivers.
- ❖ Ambient air quality monitoring will be conducted every six months to assess effectiveness of mitigation measures proposed.

#### 4.5 NOISE ENVIRONMENT

# **Anticipated Impact**

**Table 4.5 Predicted Noise Incremental Values** 

Noise Monitoring Location	Distance From Project Site(m)	Baseline Noise Level (dBA)m During Day Time	Predicted Noise Level(dBA)	Total(dBA)
Core	100	39.2	35.70	40.80
Thollamur	1690	41.8	11.14	41.80
Kadagampattu	1800	41.0	10.59	41.00
Kodukkur	4740	42.4	2.18	42.40
Eraiyur	3950	46.8	3.77	46.80
Katterikuppam	4170	40.4	3.30	40.40
Ranganathapuram	1910	45.8	10.08	45.80
Semangalam	3780	40.6	4.15	40.60
NAAQ Standards  Industrial Day Time - 75 dB (A) & Night Time- 70 dB (A)  Residential Day Time - 55 dB (A) & Night Time- 45 dB (A)		, ,		

Total noise level in all the sampling areas is well below the CPCB standards for industrial and residential areas. By adopting suitable mitigation measures, the noise levels due to the project can be controlled further.

## Mitigation Measures

- 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 though training and awareness
- ❖ Regular medical check—up and proper training to personnel to create awareness about adverse noise level effects.

#### 4.6 BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT

## **Impact on Ecology and Biodiversity**

- ❖ Quarry leases have a large number of Acacia holoseicea plants whose seeds are wind-dispersed so that they are abundant both inside and outside the quarry leases area. It contains a total of 18 species belonging to 16 families have been recorded from the buffer zone. 3 Trees (16%), 6 Shrubs (33%) and 9 Herbs (50%) were identified in mine lease area.
- There shall be negligible air emissions or effluents from the project site. During loading the truck, dust generation will be likely. This shall be a temporary effect and not anticipated to affect the surrounding vegetation significantly
- ❖ Most of the land in the buffer zone is undulating terrain with croplands, patches of grass and small shrubs. Therefore, excavation of the soil will also affect the vegetation of the croplands, grass patches and small shrubs in the area.
- ❖ Carbon released from quarrying machineries and tippers during quarrying would be 400 kg per day, 107889 kg per year and 215778 kg for two years, as provided in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Carbon Released During Two Years of Red Earth Production

	Per day	Per year	Per two years
Fuel consumption of excavator	7.1	1917	3834
Fuel consumption of compressor	0	0	0
Fuel consumption of tipper	142	38340	76680
Total fuel consumption in liters	149.1	40257	80514
Co <sub>2</sub> emission in kg	400	107889	215778

## **Mitigation Measures on Flora**

- ❖ During conceptual stage, the top bench will be re-vegetated by planting local /native species and lower benches will be converted into rainwater harvesting structure following completion of mining activities, which will replace habitat resources for fauna species in this locality over a longer time.
- \* Existing roads will be used; new roads will not be constructed to reduce impact on flora.
- None of the plants in the lease area will be cut during operational phase of the mine. We recommend uprooting and planting 3 trees in the 7.5-meter safety zone to prevent general damage during quarrying. As the survival rate due to uprooting was only 30%, 90 seedlings

were procured at the rate of 10 seedlings per tree. Seedlings are planted and protected in 7.5-meter safety zone.

## Carbon Sequestration

- To mitigate carbon emission due to mining activities, we recommend planting trees around the quarry to offset the carbon emission during quarrying. A tree can sequester 24 kg of carbon per year. Therefore, we recommend planting large number of trees around the quarry and near school campuses, government wasteland, roadsides etc.
- ❖ As per the greenbelt development plan as recommended by SEAC, about 768 trees will be planted within three months from the beginning of mining. These trees, when grown up would sequester carbon of 68 about kg of the total carbon, as provided in Table 4.7.

**Table 4.7 CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration** 

CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration in kg	68	18402	92008
Remaining CO <sub>2</sub> not sequestered in kg	331	89487	123770
Trees required for environmental compensation	ronmental compensation 3729		
Area required for environmental compensation in hectares	7		

## 4.7 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 all 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.
- ❖ 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, duties, etc.., from this project directly and indirectly.

❖ From above details, the quarry operations will have highly beneficial positive impact in the area.

## 4.8 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MEASURES

All the persons will undergo pre-employment and periodic medical examination. Employees will be monitored for occupational diseases by conducting the following tests

- General physical tests
- Audiometric tests
- ❖ Full chest, X-ray, Lung function tests, Spirometry tests
- Periodic medical examination yearly
- ❖ Lung function test yearly, those who are exposed to dust
- Eye test

Essential medicines will be provided at the site. The medicines and other test facilities will be provided at free of cost. The first aid box will be made available at the mine for immediate treatment. First aid training will be imparted to the selected employees regularly. The lists of first aid trained members shall be displayed at strategic places.

#### **CHAPTER V**

## ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES (TECHNOLOGY AND SITE)

The mineral deposits are site specific in nature; hence question of seeking alternate sites do not arise for the projects.

## **CHAPTER VI**

#### ENVIRONMENT MONITORING PROGRAM

Regular monitoring program of environmental components is essential to take into account the changes in the environmental components as shown in Table 6.1. The Objectives of monitoring is:

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

**Table 6.1 Post Environmental Clearance Monitoring Schedule** 

S.	Environment	Location	Monitoring		Parameters
No.	Attributes	Location	Duration	Frequency	Turumeters
1	Air Quality	2 Locations (1	24 hours	Once in 6	Fugitive Dust, PM <sub>2.5</sub> ,
	An Quanty	Core & 1 Buffer)	24 nours	months	$PM_{10}$ , $SO_2$ 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 m BGL
5	Noise	2 Locations (1 Core & 1 Buffer)	Hourly – 1 Day	Once in 6 months	Leq, Lmax, Lmin, Leq Day & Leq Night
6	Soil	2 Locations (1 Core & 1 Buffer)	_	Once in six months	Physical and chemical characteristics
7	Greenbelt	Within the project area	Daily	Monthly	Maintenance

Source: Guidance of manual for mining of minerals, February 2010

# **6.2 BUDGETARY PROVISION FOR EMP**

The cost in respect of monitoring of environmental components has been shown in Table 6.2.

**Table 6.2 Environment Monitoring Budget** 

S. No.	Parameter	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost per annum
1	Air Quality	-	Rs 60,000/-
2	Meteorology	-	Rs 15,000/-
3	Water Quality	-	Rs 20,000/-
4	Water Level Monitoring		Rs 10,000/-
5	Soil Quality	-	Rs 20,000/-
6	Noise Quality	-	Rs 10,000/-
8	Greenbelt	-	Rs 10,000/-
	Total	-	Rs 1,45,000 /-

Source: Field Data

## **CHAPTER VII**

## **ADDITIONAL STUDIES**

#### 7.1 RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk assessment is all about prevention of accidents and to take necessary steps to prevent it from happening. The methodology for the risk assessment is 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 assess the risk levels of those hazards in order to prioritize those that need an immediate attention. Further, mechanisms responsible for these hazards are identified and control measures are recorded along with pinpointed responsibilities. The whole quarry operation will be carried out under the direction of a qualified competent mine manager certified by the DGMS, Dhanbad.

#### 7.2 DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The objective of the disaster management plan is to make use of the combined resources of the mine and the outside services to:

- \* Rescue and treat 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

- The results on the cumulative impact of the two proposed projects on air environment of the cluster do not exceed the permissible limits set by CPCB for air pollutants.
- The cumulative results of noise for the habitation in consideration do not exceed the limit set by CPCB for residential areas for day time.
- The two proposed project will allocate Rs.10,00,000/- towards CER as recommended by SEAC.
- The two proposed projects will directly provide jobs to about 14 local people.
- The proposed projects will plant about 2296 saplings in and around the lease area.

## 7.4 PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Project Proponent shall comply with Tamil Nadu Government Order (Ms) No. 84 Environment and Forest (EC.2) Department Dated: 25.06.2018 regarding ban on one time use and throw away plastics irrespective of thickness with effect from 01.01.2019 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

## **Objective**

- ❖ To investigate the actual supply chain network of plastic waste.
- ❖ To identify and propose a sustainable plastic waste management by installing bins for collection of recyclables with all the plastic waste
- Preparation of a system design layout, and necessary modalities for implementation and monitoring.

S. No.	Activity	Responsibility
1	Framing of Layout Design by incorporating provision of the Rules,	Mines Manager
	user fee to be charged from waste generators for plastic waste	
	management, penalties/fines for littering, burning plastic waste or	
	committing any other acts of public nuisance	
2	Enforcing waste generators to practice segregation of bio-	Mines Manager
	degradable, recyclable and domestic hazardous waste	
3	Collection of plastic waste	Mines Foreman
4	Setting up of Material Recovery Facilities	Mines Manager
5	Segregation of Recyclable and Non-Recyclable plastic waste at	Mines Foreman
	Material Recovery Facilities	
6	Channelization of Recyclable Plastic Waste to registered recyclers	Mines Foreman
7	Channelization of Non-Recyclable Plastic Waste for use either in	Mines Foreman
	Cement kilns, in Road Construction	
8	Creating awareness among all the stakeholders about their	Mines Manager
	responsibility	
9	Surprise checking's of littering, open burning of plastic waste or	Mine Owner
	committing any other acts of public nuisance	

#### **CHAPTER VIII**

#### PROJECT BENEFITS

Various benefits are envisaged due to the proposed mine and benefits anticipated from the proposed project to the locality, neighbourhood, region and nation as a whole are:

- Direct employment to 5 local people
- \* Rain water harvesting structures to augment the water availability for irrigation and plantation and ground water recharge
- Creation of community assets (infrastructure) like school buildings, village roads/ linked roads, dispensary & health Centre, community Centre, market place etc.,
- Strengthening of existing community facilities through the Community Development Program
- ❖ Skill development & capacity building like vocational training
- Awareness program and community activities, like health camps, medical aids, sports & cultural activities, plantation etc.,
- ❖ CSR activities mainly contributing to education, health, training of women selfhelp groups and infrastructure etc., will be taken up in the Kondalangkuppam Village. CSR budget is allocated as 2.5% of the profit.
- Rs. 5,00,000 will be allocated for CER.

Table 8.1 CER Action Plan

S. No.	Activity	Budget (Rs.in Lakh)
1	The applicant Indents to involve in corporate environment responsibilities (CER) activities such as renovation of existing toilet, plantation within the school premises, donating environment related books to the nearby school library, etc.	Rs.5,00,000
	Total	Rs. 5,00,000

Source: Field survey conducted by FAE in consultation with project proponent

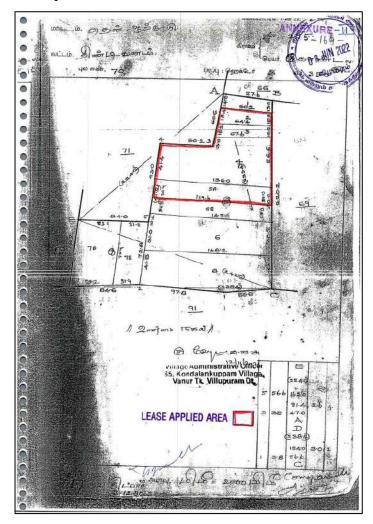
#### **CHAPTER X**

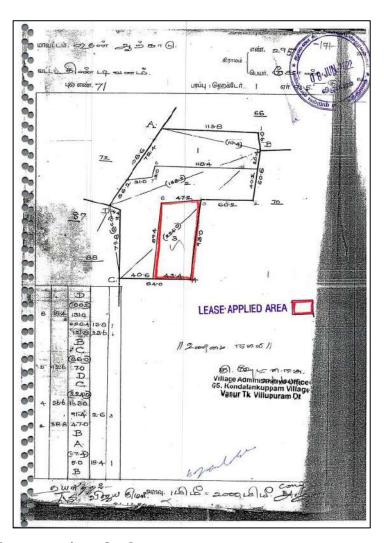
#### ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

In order to implement the environmental protection measures, an amount of **Rs. 1654913** as capital cost and recurring cost as **Rs. 1077340** as recurring cost/annum is proposed considering present market price considering present market scenario for the proposed project. After the adjustment of 5% inflation per year, the overall EMP cost for 2 years will be **Rs. 7660087** 

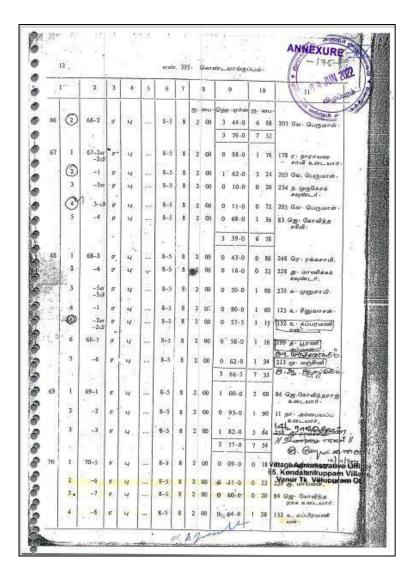
# LAND DOCUMENTS

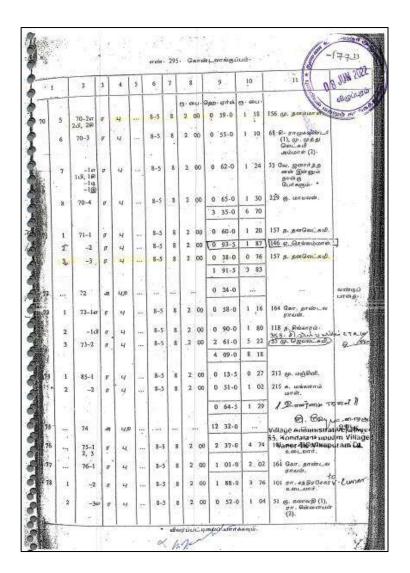
Some of the important land related documents are shown in below.



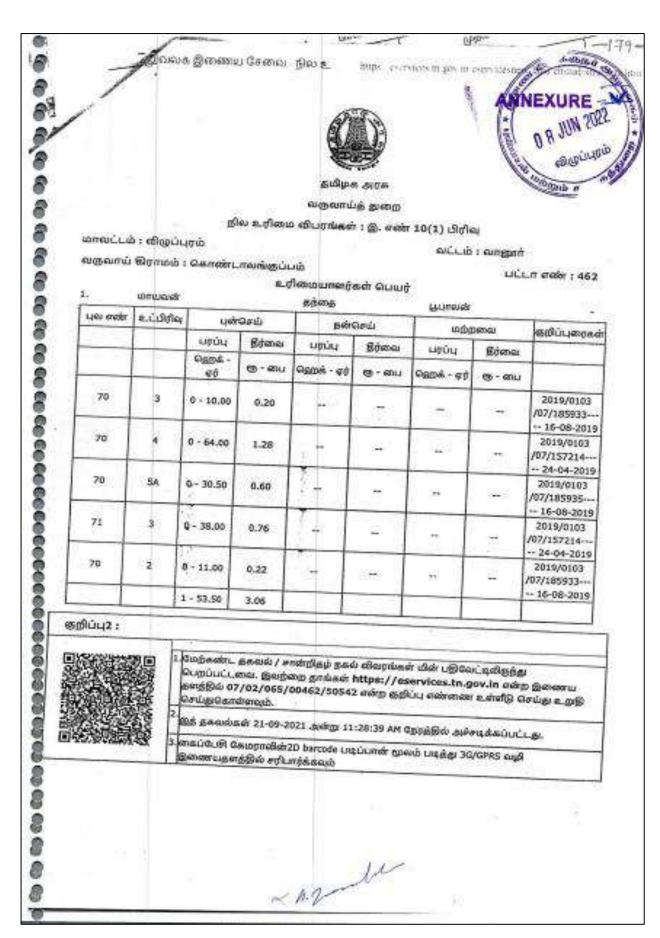


An FMP sketch showing proposed lease area in red colour

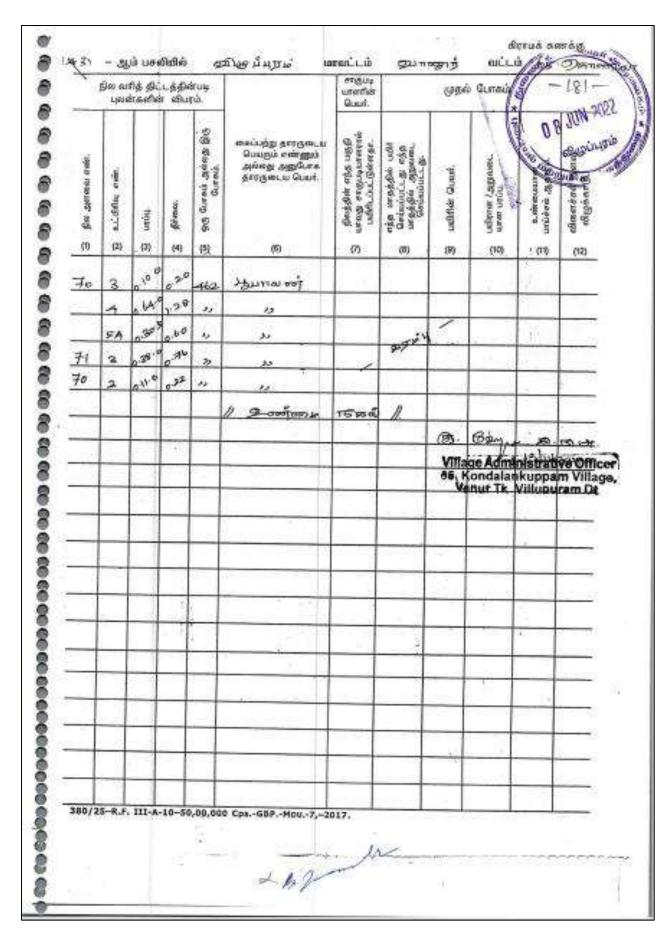




**A Register Documents** 



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