



Validity expires on 19.11.2022

***Proceedings of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority Kerala***

*Present: Prof. (Dr.) K.P. Joy, Chairman; Dr. J. Subhashini, Member and  
Sri. James Varghese, I.A.S., Member Secretary.*

Sub:SEIAA- Environmental clearance for the proposed expansion of stone quarry project in survey Nos. 259/1, 256/4, 265/1, 272/1, 272/7, 272/6, 271/3, 271/6, 273/1, 270/1, 265/2, 271/2, 270/2, 269/2, 272/2-2, 273/3, 274/1-2, 268/9-2, 266/15, 266/24, 266/16-1, 266/16-2, 271/7-1, 271/7-2, 271/7-3, 272/5, 267/5, 268/2-1, 268/2-2, 268/3-2-1, 268/3-2-2, 268/5-2, 268/6, 268/7, 269/9-2, 268/8-1, 268/8-2, 268/4, 268/4-2, 268/4-3, 271/4, 271/5 at Chithara Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala of Mr. Thomas Jacob - Granted – Orders issued.

**STATE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, KERALA**

**No. 1108/EC/SEIAA/KL/2017**

**Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 20.11.2017**

- Ref:
1. Application dated 04.02.2016 from Mr. Thomas Jacob, Director, M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106.
  2. Minutes of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of SEAC held on 08<sup>th</sup> & 09<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.
  3. Minutes of the 74<sup>th</sup> Meeting of SEAC held on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2017.
  4. Minutes of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of SEIAA held on 01.08.2017.
  5. Affidavit received dated 28.09.2017 & 19.10.2017 from Mr. Thomas Jacob, Director, M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd

**ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE NO. 81 /2017**

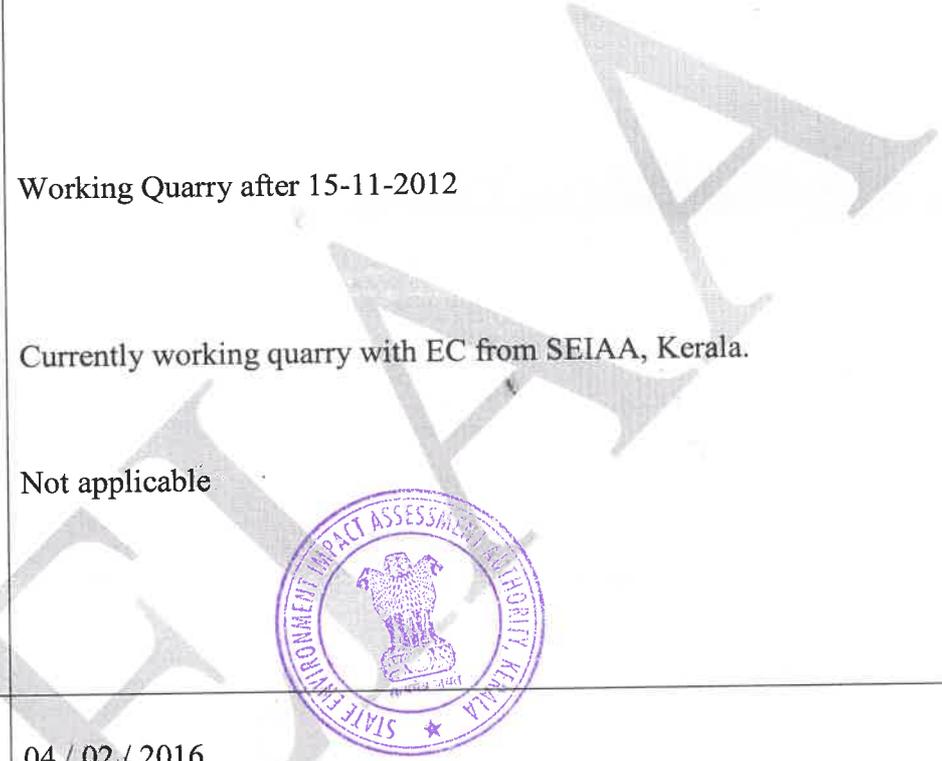
Mr. Thomas Jacob, Director, M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106, vide his application dated 04.02.2016, has sought Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 for the quarry project in survey Nos. 259/1, 256/4, 265/1, 272/1, 272/7, 272/6, 271/3, 271/6, 273/1, 270/1, 265/2, 271/2, 270/2, 269/2, 272/2-2, 273/3, 274/1-2, 268/9-2, 266/15, 266/24, 266/16-1, 266/16-2, 271/7-1, 271/7-2, 271/7-3, 272/5, 267/5, 268/2-1, 268/2-2, 268/3-2-1, 268/3-2-2, 268/5-2, 268/6, 268/7, 269/9-2, 268/8-1, 268/8-2, 268/4, 268/4-2, 268/4-3, 271/4, 271/5 of Chithara Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala, for an area of 18.2425 Hectares. The project comes under Category B, Activity 1(a), (i) as per the Schedule of EIA Notification 2006 (since it is below 50 hectares) and as per O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dated 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012 of Ministry of Environment and Forests. It is further categorized as Category B2 as per the O.M. No. J-13012/12/2013-IA-II (I) dt. 24.12.2013 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, since the area of the project is below 25 hectares.

The proposed project site falls within Latitude 08°47'13.20"N to 08°47'27.03"N and Longitude 76°59'41.76" E to 77° 00'04.44"E. The lease area consists of 18.2425 hectares, which include Government Land on lease: 9.4058 Ha. + Private own land: 8.8367 Ha. The proposed project is for quarrying of 9,00,000 MTA. Distance of the mining area from the nearest human settlement is located at about 114 m. towards South. The total water requirement is about 17 KLD in which 2 KLD is for domestic which would be sourced from open well, 13 KLD for dust suppression system in mine as well as ancillary units and 2 KLD for plantation purposes and will be sourced from storm water pond. The total power requirement will be 75 kW for compressors which will be operated by Diesel Engine. The total project cost is Rs. 13.57 Crores.

Details of the project as furnished by the applicant are as follows:-

### BASIC INFORMATION OF QUARRY

Project details		
	File No.	<b>1108 / EC / SEIAA / KL / 2017</b>
1.	Name /Title of the project	Stone Quarry (Minor Mineral) mining project of M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. is situated at Survey Nos. 259/1, 256/4, 265/1, 272/1, 272/7, 272/6, 271/3, 271/6, 273/1, 270/1, 265/2, 271/2, 270/2, 269/2, 272/2-2, 273/3, 274/1-2, 268/9-2, 266/15, 266/24, 266/16-1, 266/16-2, 271/7-1, 271/7-2, 271/7-3, 272/5, 267/5, 268/2-1, 268/2-2, 268/3-2-1, 268/3-2-2, 268/5-2, 268/6, 268/7, 269/9-2, 268/8-1, 268/8-2, 268/4, 268/4-2, 268/4-3, 271/4, 271/5 of Chithara Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala for an area of 18.2425 hectares
2.	Name and address of project proponent.	<b>Mr. THOMAS JACOB, DIRECTOR</b> <b>M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.</b> Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106.
3.	Owner of the land	The break-up of the area of 18.2425 ha. is : Government Land: 9.4058 Ha. + Private own land: 8.8367 Ha.
4.	Survey No. District/ Taluk/ and Village etc.	Survey Nos. 259/1, 256/4, 265/1, 272/1, 272/7, 272/6, 271/3, 271/6, 273/1, 270/1, 265/2, 271/2, 270/2, 269/2, 272/2-2, 273/3, 274/1-2, 268/9-2, 266/15, 266/24, 266/16-1, 266/16-2, 271/7-1, 271/7-2, 271/7-3, 272/5, 267/5, 268/2-1, 268/2-2, 268/3-2-1, 268/3-2-2, 268/5-2, 268/6, 268/7, 269/9-2, 268/8-1, 268/8-2, 268/4, 268/4-2, 268/4-3, 271/4, 271/5 of Chithara Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala
5.	Details of period of lease or permit with number	A part of the proposed quarry for an area 4.20 hectare is already approved by SEIAA, Kerala vide EC Order No. 35/SEIAA/KL/6090/2012 dt. 14-11-2012 for production capacity of 2,40,000 MTA and the copy of EC Order is attached.

	including the beginning and expiry date of lease/permit period ( <b>Copy to be attached</b> )	
6.	<p>Present Status of the project</p> <p>a) Date &amp; Year of starting the work of the quarry project.</p> <p>b) whether the quarry is working at present or not ?</p> <p>c) If stopped working since when?</p>	<p>Working Quarry after 15-11-2012</p> <p>Currently working quarry with EC from SEIAA, Kerala.</p> <p>Not applicable</p> 
7.	Date of submission of Application	04 / 02 / 2016
8.	Brief description of the project.	The land for the proposed quarry is Govt. land on lease with private owned land and the land is possessed in the name of M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. The targeted production of mine will be 9,00,000 MTA. The estimated project cost will be Rs. 13.57 Crores. The expected life of mine estimated will be about 19 years. The mining operation will be carried out by opencast semi-mechanized method as per the approved Mining Plan.
9.	Details of Authorized Signatory and address for correspondence	<p><b>Mr. THOMAS JACOB, DIRECTOR</b></p> <p><b>M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.</b></p> <p>Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O.,</p> <p>Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106.</p>
<b>Land Details</b>		

10.	Extent of area in hectares	Land status : (Total Project Area: 18.2425 hectares ) Government Land: 9.4058 Ha. + Private land: 8.8367 Ha.	
11.	Is the property forest land/ Govt. land/ own land/ patta land	Land status : (Total Project Area: 18.2425 hectares ) Government Land: 9.4058 Ha. + Private land: 8.8367 Ha.	
12.	Quantity of top soil/overburden produced and managed	A total quantity of 1,04,778 cu. m. of topsoil is proposed to be removed during the mining operations. The topsoil excavated from the quarry will be dumped / stacked separately at pre-determined place and subsequently will be utilized in spreading over reclaimed areas for plantation as part of eco-restoration. About 46,568 cu. m. of overburden (OB) will be generated throughout the mine life. This waste will be utilized within the pit for lying of haul roads. At the end use, OB can be reutilized as soil base for plantation.	
13.	Latitude and Longitude	Latitude (N)	08°47'13.20"N to 08°47'27.03"N
		Longitude (E)	76°59'41.76" E to 77° 00'04.44"E
14.	Topography of land and elevation	Part of the proposed land is exposed rock and the remaining land is covered with native trees, shrubs, herbs, grass, climbers, bushes etc. The topography of the lease area is hilly. The highest elevation of the lease area is 320 m MSL and lowest is 155 m MSL. As the proposed area is hill rock, the drainage of the lease area is towards East.	
15.	Slope analysis	As the proposed area is hill rock, the drainage of the lease area is towards East.	
16.	Will there be any significant land disturbance resulting in soil erosion, subsidence & natural drainage.	Due care will be taken to provide channel all around the foot hill to collect run off and also to avoid soil erosion. There is no danger of flood or inundation as the proposed working is above the normal ground level. The area is not susceptible to flood.	
17.	Access road to the site width and condition	7m wide tarred road	
18.	Will there be any adverse impact on the	No, the land used will be fully reclaimed and rehabilitated by backfilling the pond and plantation. Plantation and afforestation will add to the improvement in environment and aesthetic beauty of the area.	

	aesthetics of the proposal site	
<b>Mining details</b>		
19.	Minimum and Maximum height of excavation.	The exploitation of mineral is being done from 320 m to 145m MSL in conceptual phase.
20.	Life of mine proposed.	About 19 years
21.	Underground mining if any proposed	No underground mining proposed and the working will be carried out by opencast semi-mechanized method as per the approved Mining Plan.
22.	Method of Mining	The working will be carried out by opencast semi-mechanized method as per the approved Mining Plan.
23.	Distance from the adjacent quarry	There is no quarry in operation within 500m radius to the proposed quarry project.
24.	Cluster condition if any	No cluster condition
25.	Has "No cluster certificate" submitted?	Cluster certificate issued by District Geologist is already submitted with EC Application.
26.	Distance from nearby habitation	Nearest habitation is at 114m towards South.
27.	Distance from nearby forest, if applicable	None within the study area
28.	Distance from protected area, Wildlife Sanctuary, National	None within the study area



	Park etc.	
29.	Distance from nearby streams / rivers / National Highway and Roads	Kulathupuzha river, 10 km, NE Palode, about 12 km, SE
30.	Is ESA applicable? If so distance from ESA limit	Not falling in ESA.
31.	Has approved mining plan, prepared by RQP submitted?	Yes, the approved mining plan prepared by RQP is already submitted with E.C. Application.
32.	Capacity of production in TPA	9,00,000 MTA
33.	Details of mining process	The mining will be done by open cast semi-mechanized method of mining. The bench height and width will be maintained 5 m. Excavated material is transported to the crusher unit existing within the complex for further processing. The ultimate depth of the mine workings is estimated to reach up to 145m MSL.
<b>Details of Project cost</b>		
34.	Land cost	<b>Rs. 13.57 Crores ( All inclusive )</b>
35.	Plant and Machinery	<b>Rs. 13.57 Crores ( All inclusive )</b>
36.	Total Cost	<b>Rs. 13.57 Crores ( All inclusive )</b>
37.	Financial Statement including funding source and details of insurance etc.	<b>Rs. 13.57 Crores ( All inclusive )</b> <b>Insurance = Insurance to the quarry workers would provide through insurance company.</b> <b>Funding = Own source &amp; bank loan</b>

38.	Management Plan	Air Pollution	<p>Mining activities will generate certain quantities of dust during drilling, blasting, loading and transportation operations. The following measures will be taken to mitigate the fugitive dust from different operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laying of haul road as per the standards, black topping of permanent haul road and service road to avoid or eliminate air – borne dust.</li> <li>• To avoid the dust generation from the drilling operations, wet drilling method will be adopted.</li> <li>• Drill machines will be equipped with dust collectors.</li> <li>• Use of appropriate explosives for blasting and avoiding overcharging of blast holes.</li> <li>• Controlled blasting techniques will be adopted.</li> <li>• Watering of haul road and other road at regular intervals.</li> <li>• Provision of dust filters/ mask to workers working at highly dust prone and affected areas.</li> <li>• Provision of green belt all along the periphery of the lease area.</li> <li>• Periodical monitoring of ambient air quality in and around the lease area.</li> </ul> <p><b>The extracted mineral will be transported from the quarry to the end user by adopting following measures so as to minimize dust emissions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In case of long transportation the trucks after loading will be covered with tarpaulin sheets.</li> <li>• Speed of the vehicles will be maintained within the prescribed limits.</li> <li>• Trucks will not be over loaded and will be maintained to the body level</li> </ul>
		Water Pollution	<p>Provision of storm water collection pond with an appropriate capacity. The water requirement for sprinkling on sources of dust emission, on roads, landscaping etc. Can be met from the stored rainwater in the pond.</p>
		Noise	<p>The major noise generating source from the proposed activity is working machinery, drilling, blasting and plying of vehicles. The following control measures are to be undertaken to bring down the noise levels:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper maintenance of machinery, equipments and</li> </ul>

		<p>improvement on design of machines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of personal protective devices i.e., earmuffs and earplugs by workers, who are working in high noise generating areas.</li> <li>• Creation of wide green belt of dense foliage between mine areas and residential colonies.</li> <li>• Proper training to personnel to create awareness about adverse noise level effects.</li> <li>• Planned noise monitoring at suitable locations in the plant and outside location for proper effective remedial actions.</li> </ul>
		<p><b>Solid Waste Management</b></p> <p><b>Topsoil Management</b></p> <p>The topsoil excavated from the quarry will be dumped / stacked separately at pre-determined place and subsequently will be utilized in spreading over reclaimed areas for plantation as part of eco-restoration. Precautions will be taken to limit the height of the topsoil dump / stacked to 5 to 6 meters in order to preserve its fertility and shelf life. It will be suitably protected from soil erosion and infertility by planting fodder grass and leguminous plants during temporary storage.</p> <p><b>Overburden Management</b></p> <p>This waste will be utilized within the pit for lying of haul roads. At the end use, OB can be reutilized as soil base for plantation.</p>
		<p><b>Eco-restoration</b></p> <p>The year wise programme of eco-restoration for life of mine will be made and about 16,000 trees will be planted in an area of 15.58879 ha.</p>
39.	Whether Environment Management Plan or Eco restoration Plan satisfactory ?	Detailed Environment Management Plan is already submitted with E.C. Application.
40.	Does it suggest	Yes and the detailed Environment Management Plan is already submitted with E.C. Application.

	mitigation measures for each activity	
41.	If Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) satisfactory	Detailed Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) is already submitted with E.C. Application.
42.	Does it need public hearing	Not Applicable
43.	Details of litigation and Court verdict if any	No litigation pending
44.	Details of public complaint, if any	None
45.	Details of statutory sanction required	<p>The following Govt. Orders / Policies are to be followed:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2015.</li> <li>➤ Mines Act, 1952</li> <li>➤ Explosive Rules, 2008</li> <li>➤ Kerala Panchayat Raj Act, 1994</li> <li>➤ Environment Protection Act, 1986</li> <li>➤ EIA Notification, 2006/2009</li> <li>➤ The Kerala Promotion of Tree Growth in Non-Forest Areas (Amendment) Act, 2007.</li> </ul>
46.	<b>XIII.</b> If CRZ recommendation applicable?	Not Applicable
<b>PART B</b>		
<b>Environment Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures</b>		
<b>Impact on water</b>		
47.	Details of water requirement per day in	The total water requirement is about 17 KLD in which 2 KLD is for domestic requirement which would be sourced from open well, 13 KLD for dust suppression as well as ancillary unit and 2 KLD for plantation purposes and will be sourced from storm water pond.

	KLD	
48.	Water source /sources.	2 KLD is for domestic requirement which would be sourced from open well, 13 KLD for dust suppression as well as ancillary unit and 2 KLD for plantation purposes and will be sourced from storm water pond.
49.	Expected water use per day in KLD.	17 KLD
50.	Details of water requirements met from water harvesting.	13 KLD for dust suppression as well as ancillary unit and 2 KLD for plantation purposes and will be sourced from storm water pond.
51.	What are the impact of the proposal on the ground water?	No significant impact envisaged on ground water due to the mining project.
52.	How much of the water requirement can be met from the recycling of treated waste water? (Facilities for liquid waste treatment)	Nil
53.	What is the incremental pollution load from waste water generated from the proposed activities?	The sewage to a tune of 1.60 KLD generated from the mine office will be diverted to the septic tank followed by soak pit.

54.	How is the storm water from within the site managed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Storm water drains with silt traps will be suitably constructed all along the periphery of the pit area to collect the run-off from the lease area and divert into the storm water pond /tanks proposed within the complex.</li> <li>➤ All measures will be taken not to disturb the existing drainage pattern adjacent to the other property.</li> <li>➤ De-siltation traps and storm water collection pond proposed for silt removal.</li> <li>➤ The storm water collected from the lease area will be utilized for dust suppression on haul roads, plantation within the premises etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Impact on Biodiversity and Eco restoration Programmes</b>		
55.	Will the project involve extensive clearing or modification of vegetation (Provide details)	Due to the mining activities, there will be loss of some native species and vegetation. However, some of these species will be planted at the end use for eco-restoration.
56.	What are the measures proposed to minimize the likely impact on vegetation (details of proposal for tree plantation/ landscaping )	<p>The year wise programme of eco-restoration for the life of mine will be made and about 16,000 trees will be planted in an area of 15.58879 ha. Ecological restoration for the mined area by plantation of the species as per the time schedule suggested below: -</p> <p>First Six months                      -- Herbs &amp; grass  Next Six months                        -- Shrubs  Next Six months onwards          -- Trees</p> <p>Selection of species is based on High Dust Capturing, Soil Holding Capacity, ground water recharge capacity etc. More focus is given for medicinal plants.</p>
57.	Is there any displacement of fauna – both terrestrial and aquatic. – If so what	<p>Not applicable</p> <p>No endangered species found at site</p>

	are the mitigation measures ? Presence of any endangered species or red listed category (in detail)	
<b>Impact on Air Environment</b>		
58.	What are the mitigation measures on generation of dust, smoke and air quality	Details already provided at EMP section at Sr. No. 38 above.
59.	Details of internal traffic management of the site.	Designated space will be provided for parking of truck / tipper within the site. For the purposes of mining activities, existing roads are sufficient. However, haul road will be suitably developed within the proposed area. Speed of the vehicles will be maintained within the prescribed limits (Speed Governor fitted).
60.	Details of noise from traffic, machines and vibrator and mitigation measures	Details already provided at EMP section at Sr. No. 38 above.
61.	Impact of DG sets and other equipments on noise and vibration and ambient air quality around the	Details provided at EMP section at Sr. No. 38 above and air, noise and water sampling reports were already submitted with EC Application.

	project site and mitigation measures	
62.	Air quality monitoring in detail	Details provided at EMP section at Sr. No. 38 above and air, noise and water sampling reports were already submitted with EC Application.
<b>Energy Conservation</b>		
63.	Details of power requirement and source of supply.	The total power requirement will be 75 kW, which will be drawn from diesel engine. Fuel Quantity – 16 to 20 ltr/ hr.
64.	Details of renewable energy (non – conventional) used.	We will promote renewable energy resources.
<b>Risk Management</b>		
65.	Are there sufficient measures proposed for risk hazards in case of emergency such as accident at the site?	Detailed Environment Management Plan is already submitted with E.C. Application.
66.	Are proposals for fencing around the quarry satisfactory?  Storage of explosives /hazardous	Barbed wire fencing will be done all around the quarry site.  The stone quarry mine will result in increase in frequency of blasting for mining the mineral. However, controlled blasting with optimum charge of holes will be carried out to loosen the rock. Explosion hazards are envisaged due to mishandling of explosives. Explosives will be handled with utmost care in compliance of conditions imposed by Chief Controller of Explosive & Metalliferous Mines Regulation, 1961.  Top soil and over burden generated from the site will be stored separately on

	substance in detail	earmarked place and will be used for eco-restoration and internal road development.
	Facility for solid waste management	

**Socio Economic Impacts**

67.	Will the project cause adverse effects on local communities disturbance to sacred sites or other cultural values. What are the safe guards proposed?	No
68.	Will the proposal result in any changes to the demographic structure of local population. If so, provide details.	The mining project will directly / indirectly develop the area by providing employment opportunities. With the proposed development in and around the area there will be many supporting facilities/ infrastructure eventually leading to the development of the area.

69.	Are the CSR proposals	<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Areas of Intervention</b>	<b>Recurring Expenses (in Rs.)</b>	<b>Non Recurring Expenses (in Rs.)</b>
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satisfactory. Give details	1	Promotion of education	7,50,000	14,90,000
	2	Health care	7,00,000	Nil
	3	Environmental sustainability	6,50,000	Nil
	4	Infrastructure development	3,50,000	10,00,000
		<b>Total</b>	<b>24,50,000</b> <b>say Rs 25 lakhs</b>	<b>24,90,000</b> <b>say</b> <b>Rs 25</b> <b>lakhs</b>

Yes, a detailed study on social status of the project site surroundings & need base study on proposed CSR activities were carried out and the copy of report was submitted with EC Application. The project proponent will spent the above amount for CSR activities for the welfare of the local community in consultation with the local body.

70.	What are the projects benefits in terms of employment potential?	Due to the mining activity and due to the attached ancillary unit, there will be workers attracted to the project area. It is proposed to employ 45 persons in the project.
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#### PART C

71.	Details of NABET approved EIA Consultant engaged- Their name, address and accreditation details	<p><b>M/s Environmental Engineers &amp; Consultants Pvt. Ltd.</b> <b>(NABET Accredited Consultant Organization)</b></p> <p><i>Head Office :-</i> A1-198, Janak Puri, New Delhi.</p> <p><i>Branch Office:-</i> C-306, Kanchanjunga Apartments, Palarivattom P.O., Kochi, Kerala.</p> 
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#### Summary and Conclusion

72.	Overall justification for implementation of the project.	It is predicted that socio-economic impact due to this project will positively increase the chance of more employment opportunities for local inhabitants. There are no Resettlement and Rehabilitation issues involved in this project. The project infrastructures will be of use to people of the area. The revenue of the State Govt. will be definitely increasing due to the proposed activity. The entire project area is devoid of any endangered flora and fauna. <b>It is proposed to reclaim the land and develop green cover for eco-restoration with native species to a maximum possible extent. Additionally, an area is earmarked outside the proposed mining area for compensatory mass</b>
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		<b>plantation. Also, a storm water pond is proposed outside the mining area for storage of rain water and for its subsequent use so as to conserve fresh water consumption.</b> Thus the proposed project is not likely to affect the environment or adjacent ecosystem adversely.
73.	Explanation of how adverse impact have been mitigated.	Detailed Pre-Feasibility Report (PFR) with Environment Management Plan (EMP) is already submitted with E.C. Application.

2. The proposal was placed in the 72<sup>nd</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 08<sup>th</sup> & 09<sup>th</sup> May 2017. Further to the intimation of SEAC, the Proponent and the RQP attended the meeting and RQP made a power point presentation about the salient features of the project. The Committee appraised the proposal based on the Mining Plan, Pre-feasibility Report and all other documents submitted along with Form1.

The Committee decided to **defer the item for field inspection.** At the time of site visit the Sub Committee members examined whether the proponent has adhered to the specific conditions mentioned in the previous EC.

Field visit to the Quarry project site of M/s Poabs enterprises Pvt Ltd, Chithara village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam district, was carried out on 10.06.2017 by the sub-committee of SEAC, Kerala, comprising Dr. Oommen V Oommen and Sri. John Mathai. Shri. Joseph Jacob, Managing Director, Poabs Enterprises Pvt Ltd, along with the Mines Manager and other representatives were present at the site at the time of site visit.

*The proposed lease area consists of 18.2425 ha out of which 4.2 ha was accorded EC in 2012. This project is located at about 2 km west of Challimukku junction on the Thiruvananthapuram-Shencottah road. Entire area under possession has been provided with boundary wall/fence. Boundary pillars are erected and numbered as given in the surface plan. The rock type is a mixture of Khondalite and incipient Charnockite. The eastern part with existing EC is being exploited with formation of benches while the other part is yet to be developed. The overall shape of the land is a hillock with moderate slopes to all the sides. OB is stored in the designated place with protective retaining walls. The storm water from the worked out portion is channelized into a pit that functions as RWH structure. The storm water from the eastern area and from the crusher site is led into another RWH structure near the gate, clarified and overflow let out through a defined channel. The main haulage road and the approach road are properly laid. Sign boards are provided. Rubber is the dominant landuse. Floral and faunal biodiversity is not observed as the area is mostly rocky and disturbed. Green belt is maintained all around and close to the service block. Dwelling units are not observed within 100 m. Use of solar energy for lighting and heating and biogas from waste for cooking is in practise. EC compliance report for the existing quarry is being provided regularly to SEIAA.*

*A small sized working quarry of less than 1 ha is seen on the eastern side, but the total area is less than 25 ha. Based on an overall evaluation of the site and considering the fact that the site includes a part where EC was already issued, it can be recommended with the specific conditions that*

- *The quarry needs reworking following top to bottom approach of mining.*
- *A separate plot may be set apart to relocate and protect shrubs and plants in the area that are rare to the locality.*
- *Additional RWH structure may be provided in the lower part of worked out pits to enhance water storage temporarily.*

3. The report on the proposal was considered in the 74<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The Committee appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-feasibility Report, Mining Plan, field inspection report of the Sub Committee and all other documents submitted with the proposal. The Committee decided to Recommend for issuance of EC subject to general conditions in addition to the following specific condition for mining.

- 1) *Quarry needs to reorient its mining operation following top to bottom approach*
- 2) *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*

The proponent agreed to set apart Rs 25 lakhs (non-recurring) and Rs 25 lakhs (recurring) per annum for taking up CSR activities in the locality in consultation with local body.

4. The proposal was considered in the 72<sup>nd</sup> meeting of SEIAA held on 01.08.2017. Authority accepted the recommendation of SEAC and decided to issue EC subject to general condition in addition to the following specific conditions.

- 1) *Quarry needs to reorient its mining operation following top to bottom approach*
- 2) *If any plant species endemic to Western Ghats are noticed in the area they shall be properly protected in situ or by transplanting to an appropriate location inside the lease area.*
- 3)

The proponent should set apart an amount of Rs.25 lakh (non-recurring) and Rs.25 lakh per annum (recurring) for CSR activities for the welfare of the local community in consultation with the local Panchayat. A notarised affidavit for the commitment of CSR activities and agreeing all the general and specific conditions should be submitted before the issuance of EC.

5. The proponent has submitted an affidavit vide reference 5<sup>th</sup> cited, satisfying all the above conditions. Environmental clearance as per the EIA notification 2006 is hereby accorded for the proposed building stone quarry project in Survey Nos. 259/1, 256/4, 265/1, 272/1, 272/7, 272/6, 271/3, 271/6, 273/1, 270/1, 265/2, 271/2, 270/2, 269/2, 272/2-2, 273/3, 274/1-2, 268/9-2, 266/15, 266/24, 266/16-1, 266/16-2, 271/7-1, 271/7-2, 271/7-3, 272/5, 267/5, 268/2-1, 268/2-2, 268/3-2-1, 268/3-2-2, 268/5-2, 268/6, 268/7, 269/9-2, 268/8-1, 268/8-2, 268/4, 268/4-2, 268/4-3, 271/4, 271/5 at Chithara Village, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala of Mr. Thomas Jacob, Director, M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106, for an area of 18.2425 hectares, subject to the specific conditions as recommended in para 4 above, all the environmental impact mitigation and management measures undertaken by the project proponent in the Form I, EMP, PFR and Mining plan submitted to SEIAA. The assurances and clarifications given by the proponent will be deemed to be a part of these proceedings as if incorporated herein. Also the general conditions for projects stipulated for mining (items 1 to 61), appended hereto will be applicable and have to be strictly adhered to.

6. The clearance issued will also be subject to full and effective implementation of all the undertakings given in the application form, mitigation measures as assured in the Environment Management Plan and the mining features, including progressive mine closure plan as submitted with the application and relied on for grant of this clearance. The undertakings and conditions subject to all the mining features, Environmental Management Plans as undertaken in the Mining Plan and EMP submitted to SEIAA will be deemed to be part of this proceedings as conditions as undertaken by the proponent, as if incorporated herein.

7. Validity of the Environmental Clearance will be five years from the date of this clearance, subject to inspection by SEIAA on annual basis and compliance of the conditions, subject to earlier review of E.C in case of violation or non-compliance of conditions or genuine complaints from residents within the security area of the quarry.

8. Compliance of the conditions herein will be monitored by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority or its authorised offices and also by the regional office of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India, Bangalore.

- i. Necessary assistance for entry and inspection should be provided by the project proponent and those who are engaged or entrusted by him to the staff for inspection or monitoring.
- ii. Instances of violation if any shall be reported to the District Collector, Kollam to take legal action under the Environment (Protection) Act 1986.

- iii. The given address for correspondence with the authorised signatory of the project is Mr. Thomas Jacob, Director, M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd., Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106.

Sd/-

**JAMES VARGHESE.I.A.S,**  
**Member Secretary (SEIAA)**

To,

Mr. Thomas Jacob,  
Director,  
M/s Poabs Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.,  
Poabs Group, Kuttoor P.O.,  
Thiruvalla, Kerala-689106

Copy to,

1. MoEF Regional Office, Southern Zone, Kendriya Sadan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, E&F Wing, II Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment Department, Government of Kerala.
3. The Director, Mining & Geology, Thiruvananthapuram -4.
4. The Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board
5. The District Collector, Kollam
6. The District Geologist, Kollam
7. The Tahasildar, Kottarakkara Taluk, Kollam District, Kerala
8. Chairman, SEIAA.
9. Website.
10. S/f
11. O/c



Forwarded/By Order

Administrator, SEIAA

# STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY KERALA

## GENERAL CONDITIONS (for mining projects)

1. Rain Water Harvesting facility should be installed as per the prevailing provisions of KMBR / KPBR, unless otherwise specified.
2. Environment Monitoring Cell as agreed under the affidavit filed by the proponent should be formed and made functional.
3. Suitable avenue trees should be planted along either side of the tarred road and open parking areas, if any, including of approach road and internal roads.
4. Maximum possible solar energy generation and utilization shall be ensured as an essential part of the project.
5. Sprinklers shall be installed and used in the project site to contain dust emissions.
6. Eco-restoration including the mine closure plan shall be done at the own cost of the project proponent.
7. At least 10 percent out of the total excavated pit area should be retained as water storage areas and the remaining area should be reclaimed with stacked dumping and overburden and planted with indigenous plant species that are eco-friendly, if no other specific condition on reclamation of pit is stipulated in the E.C.
8. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreed upon by the proponent should be implemented
9. The lease area shall be fenced off with barbed wires to a minimum height of 4ft around, before starting of mining. All the boundary indicators (boards, stores, markings, etc) shall be protected at all times and shall be conspicuous.
10. Warning alarms indicating the time of blasting (to be done at specific timings) has to be arranged as per stipulations of Explosive Department.
11. Control measures on noise and vibration prescribed by KSPCB should be implemented.
12. Quarrying activities should be limited to day time as per KSPCB guidelines/specific conditions.
13. Blasting should be done in a controlled manner as specified by the regulations of Explosives Department or any other concerned agency.
14. A licensed person should supervise/control the blasting operations.
15. Access roads to the quarry shall be tarred to contain dust emissions that may arise during transportation of materials.
16. Overburden materials should be managed within the site and used for reclamation of mine pit as per mine closure plan / specific conditions.
17. Height of benches should not exceed 5 m, and width should not be less than 5 m, if there is no mention in the mining plan/specific condition.
18. Mats to reduce fly rock blast to a maximum of 10 PPV should be provided.
19. Maximum depth of mining from general ground level at site shall not exceed 10m
20. No mining operations should be carried out at places having a slope greater than 45°.
21. Acoustic enclosures should have been provided to reduce sound amplifications in addition to the provisions of green belt and hollow brick envelop for crushers so that the noise level is kept within prescribed standards given by CPCB/KSPCB.
22. The workers on the site should be provided with the required protective equipment such as ear muffs, helmet, etc.
23. Garland drains with clarifiers to be provided in the lower slopes around the core area to channelize storm water.
24. The transportation of minerals should be done in covered trucks to contain dust emissions.
25. The proponent should plant trees at least 5 times of the loss that has been occurred while clearing the land for the project.
26. Disposal of spent oil from diesel engines should be as specified under relevant Rules/Regulations.
27. Explosives should be stored in magazines in isolated place specified and approved by the Explosives Department.
28. A minimum buffer distance of 100m from the boundary of the quarry to the nearest dwelling unit or other structures, not being any facility for mining shall be provided.
29. 100 m buffer distance should be maintained from forest boundaries.

30. Consent from Kerala State Pollution Control Board under Water and Air Act(s) should be obtained before initiating mining activity.
31. All other statutory clearances should be obtained, as applicable, by project proponents from the respective competent authorities including that for blasting and storage of explosives.
32. In the case of any change(s) in the scope of the project, extent quantity, process of mining technology involved or in any way affecting the environmental parameters/impacts as assessed, based on which only the E.C is issued, the project would require a fresh appraisal by this Authority, for which the proponents shall apply and get the approval of this Authority.
33. The Authority reserves the right to add additional safeguard measures subsequently, if found necessary, and to take action including revoking of the environment clearance under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to ensure effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures in a time bound and satisfactory manner.
34. The stipulations by Statutory Authorities under different Acts and Notifications should be complied with, including the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991 and EIA Notification, 2006.
35. The project proponent should advertise in at least two local newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which (both the advertisement and the newspaper) shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded Environmental Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) office and may also be seen on the website of the Authority at [www.seiaakerala.org](http://www.seiaakerala.org). The advertisement should be made within 10 days from the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same signed in all pages should be forwarded to the office of this Authority as confirmation.
36. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Grama Panchayat/ District Panchayat/ Municipality/ Corporation/ Urban Local Body and also to the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions / representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The Environmental Clearance shall also be put on the website of the company by the proponent.
37. The proponent shall submit half yearly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) and upload the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the respective Regional Office of MoEF, Govt. of India and also to the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) office.
38. The details of Environmental Clearance should be prominently displayed in a metallic board of 3 ft x 3 ft with green background and yellow letters of Times New Roman font of size of not less than 40. Sign board with extent of lease area and boundaries shall be depicted at the entrance of the quarry, visible to the public
39. The proponent should provide notarized affidavit (indicating the number and date of Environmental Clearance proceedings) that all the conditions stipulated in the EC shall be scrupulously followed.
40. No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the SEIAA, No further expansion or modifications in the mine shall be carried out without prior approval of the SEIAA, as applicable.
41. The Project proponent shall ensure that no natural water course and/or water resources shall be obstructed due to any mining operations. Necessary safeguard measures to protect the first order streams, if any, originating from the mine lease shall be taken.
42. Monitoring of Ambient Air Quality to be carried out based on the Notification 2009, as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board. Water sprinkling should be increased at places loading and unloading points & transfer point to reduce fugitive emissions.
43. The top soil, if any, shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only for the topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation. The over burden (OB) generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked dump site(s) only. The maximum height of the dumps shall not exceed 8m and width 20m and overall slope of the dumps shall be maintained to 45°. The OB dumps should be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. In critical areas, use of geo textiles shall be undertaken for stabilization of the dump. The entire excavated area shall be backfilled. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas should continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining.

44. Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, mineral and OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the river and other water bodies. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly.
45. Effective safeguard measures such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> such as haul Road, loading and unloading points and transfer points – it shall be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
46. Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points should be provided and properly maintained.
47. Measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment.
48. A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
49. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures and CSR activate should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) office.
50. The Regional Office of MOEF & CC located at Bangalore shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (S) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports.
51. Any appeal against this Environmental Clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.
52. Concealing the factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
53. The SEIAA may revoke or suspend the order, for non implementation of any of the specific or this implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory. The SEIAA reserves the right to alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
54. The above conditions shall prevail notwithstanding anything to the contrary, in consistent, or simplified, contained in any other permit, license or consent given by any other authority for the same project.
55. This order is valid for a period of 5 years or the expiry date of mine lease period issued by the Government of Kerala, whichever is earlier.
56. The Environmental Clearance will be subject to the final order of the courts in any pending litigation related to the land or project, in any court of law.
57. The mining operation shall be restricted to above ground water table and it should not intersect ground water table.
58. All vehicles used for transportation and within the mines shall have 'PUC' certificate from authorized pollution taking centre. Washing of all vehicles shall be inside the lease area'
59. Project proponent should obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawal of requisite quantity of surface water and ground water for the project.
60. Regular monitoring of flow rates and water quality upstream and downstream of the springs and perennial nallahs flowing in and around the mine lease area shall be carried out and reported in the six monthly reports to SEIAA.
61. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be under taken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.



For Member Secretary, SEIAA Kerala